

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current
scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

THE MARKET REPORTER

Published Weekly by the
United States Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Markets

WASHINGTON, D. C.

MAY 1, 1920.

VOL. 1, No. 18.

EARLY TOMATOES ACTIVE.

Large Acreage and Production—Some Frost Damage—Early Prices Below Last Season.

Tomatoes grown for car-lot shipments comprise only about 10 to 15 per cent of the commercial crop. Considerable stock is sold and used in the local markets near producing sections, but the greater part of the acreage is grown for canning. Tomatoes for shipment as table stock are grown most extensively in six early producing and shipping States. These States are California, Florida, Mississippi, Texas, Tennessee, and New Jersey, which have shipped between 10,000 and 11,000 cars of about 400 bushels, or 10 to 12 tons, during each of the past three seasons. These shipments comprise about two-thirds of the whole car-lot movement of tomatoes.

Production of tomatoes in recent years has tended to decrease while prices have shown an upward trend, from season to season. This year, however, acreage in the early States appears to be considerably larger than last season. The combined area in Florida and Texas is estimated at 31,450 acres compared with 26,800 acres last season, and the yield is estimated at 139 crates, or 10 per cent increase per acre.

Early Movement Active.

Shipments of early tomatoes this season to April 22 were 2,274 cars, compared with 1,720 cars to corresponding date last year and with 1,453 in 1918. Until the present season the only movement before the third week in April was from Florida, chiefly from the east coast section. This season the figures included one car from Texas. The Texas movement goes chiefly to middle-western markets and commonly reaches about one-fourth the volume of shipments from Florida. Texas shipments however, have shown a tendency to decrease, 368 cars being shipped in 1919, compared with 947 cars in 1917. California shipments have averaged not far from the Texas movement, but last year California shipped nearly twice as many cars as Texas. The movement from Mississippi has averaged not far from that of California and Texas. New Jersey has decreased from 3,122 cars in 1916 to 2,006 cars in 1918 and 1,012 cars in 1919.

Interest at present centers chiefly in the Florida crop, which has been moving actively from the east coast section. Shipments from Florida of 2,143 cars may be compared with 1,469 to April 20 last year. Indications the middle of April were that car-lot movements for the rest of the season would be light to moderate with the exception of perhaps fairly liberal shipments between April 20 and May 5 or 10. The railway embargo caused serious interference with shipments.

Season's Price Trend Upward.

Low temperatures in early March caused frost injury and unsatisfactory conditions during the early part of the season in the Florida producing sections. During the first three weeks in March, immediately after the frost, prices at Florida shipping points, ranged from \$2.50 to \$3 per 6-basket carrier, although shippers were making an effort to get better prices for tomatoes picked previously and placed in packing houses. On account of the uncertain quality of the stock, buyers held off during early March but were more active during the latter part of the month, and demand increased somewhat for the very moderate supplies of first-quality stock available. Shipments improved gradually in quality during the latter part of

COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE OF TOMATOES.

Tomato shipments have filled close to 15,000 cars with an estimated value of \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000 yearly in recent seasons. These were practically all of table stock. Two-thirds of the movement was from the five States: California, Florida, Texas, Tennessee, and New Jersey, which together have made average yearly shipments of over 10,000 cars the past three seasons. Only about one-third of the commercial table stock is shipped in carload lots. The canning crop is often six to ten times the volume of carlot shipments, and large quantities are used and sold near place of production. Acreage and crop yield have tended downward and prices have shown an upward trend in recent seasons.

March and prices showed an upward tendency, strengthening to a range of \$2.75 to \$3 f. o. b., while some cars of best quality reached \$3.25 to \$3.50 per carrier. Prices strengthened in early April to a range of \$2.75 to \$3.25 and before the end of the month had reached a much higher range—around \$4.50 to \$6 f. o. b. cash track for best green stock, inferior stock ranging \$4.50 to \$5.50.

Early Conditions Unsatisfactory.

Conditions in consuming centers in March were unsatisfactory also, the chief reasons being the poor quality of arrivals and the green condition of stock, which, on account of defects sometimes not apparent, did not color properly. Shippers frequently received low returns and suffered heavy losses.

With the arrival of more favorable weather in consuming centers and improvement in quality of stock, sales became more satisfactory during the third week in March particularly for stock of fancy quality. During

(Continued on page 281.)

CONDENSED MILK SITUATION.

War-Time Demand Stimulated Production, Resulting in Overstocked Domestic Market, With Limited Export Demand.

During the past four months the condensed-milk trade, including the manufacturers, has been hard pressed by a complicated market situation. Some manufacturers, confronted with large supplies and with an uncertain market have curtailed production by closing some of their factories. Milk producers supplying condenseries have been advised that they must accept lower prices for their milk because of the overstocked market for condensed and evaporated milk and the lower prevailing prices for these commodities. To be deprived suddenly of a market by a closed factory or confronted with a price much below that realized by producers who supply market-milk dealers, creameries, or cheese factories has been very depressing to farmers in the condensery territory. Information gleaned from various sources by marketing specialists of the U. S. Bureau of Markets shows some of the causes which led to the prevailing conditions.

War Production Doubled.

In the four years 1916 to 1919 the total annual production of condensed and evaporated milk increased from slightly over 992 million pounds to over 2 billion, or more than 104 per cent. The tremendously increased demand for overseas shipment for our own armies and the Allies with contracts made on a "cost-plus" basis stimulated production to such an extent that the capacity of many factories was increased and many new plants were established.

Production and exports of condensed and evaporated milk.

Year.	Production.	Exports.	Percentage exported.
	<i>Pounds.</i>	<i>Pounds.</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>
1914.....	22,850,904	75,689,584	.....
1915.....	992,364,000	219,686,127	22
1916.....	1,333,787,000	428,575,213	32
1917.....	1,675,934,000	551,139,754	33
1918.....	2,030,958,000	852,865,414	42
1919.....			

In connection with this impetus to production it is of interest to note that just prior to the war the condensed-milk industry in the United States was more or less disturbed under the influence of a domestic production which exceeded the existing demand, both domestic and foreign. The war demands of European countries saved the industry from what appeared to be an approaching crisis.

The reaction from war conditions has produced a bad situation. Under pressure of economic readjustment between countries,

(Continued on page 279.)

LIVE STOCK

PRICE DECLINE CONTINUES.

Transportation Difficulties Hinder Outgoing Shipments.

(Chicago, East St. Louis, Kansas City, and Omaha.)

Despite the continuance of the switchmen's strike, receipts were of normal volume during the week ending April 24, with Chicago getting more than its proportion. Had the outlet increased proportionately the markets might have been well sustained, but everywhere buyers who bought on spring account were so severely handicapped by the shortage of railroad equipment or by other transportation difficulties that they were compelled to limit their buying to such an extent that packers, having access to more than they required, raided prices. The week's total at 10 markets approximated 200,300 cattle, 535,200 hogs, and 172,500 sheep, against 100,000 cattle, 192,800 hogs, and 98,500 sheep the previous week, and 173,100 cattle, 542,300 hogs, and 217,100 sheep the corresponding week a year ago.

Cattle.—Beef steer prices declined generally \$1 to \$2 during the week under review, Omaha and Chicago, however, quoting \$1.50 as the extreme depreciation. Handyweight steers at Kansas City were only 50 cents to \$1 lower, while at Chicago 50 to 75 cents covered the decline on the offerings selling late at \$10.50 and lower. Top steers at Chicago made \$15, and bulk sold at \$11 to \$13.50. Practically every market was duller on the heavy offerings.

She stock at Omaha dropped \$1 to \$1.25 while St. Louis reported extremes of \$2 less on light heifers against about 25 cents on fat cows. Kansas City reported fat she stock steady, but bulk at Chicago closed 50 cents to \$1 lower. Cannery and cutters were steady to 50 cents lower. While bologna bulls at Chicago advanced 25 to 50 cents, butcher grades were off 25 cents. At two other western markets bulls sold mostly steady, yet Omaha reported bulk of sales around 50 cents lower. Veal calves suffered severely, a drop of \$8.50 being reported at East St. Louis, against a loss at Chicago of \$2.50, Omaha escaping with a decline of 50 cents. Fully half of the decline on calves at East St. Louis occurred at the opening.

Stocker and feeder trade was irregular and of limited volume everywhere, with prices from steady to strong at Omaha to weak to unevenly lower elsewhere. Under prevailing conditions receipts were excessive with outlet interfered with greatly at most markets by the strike, causing much dissatisfaction among buyers as well as sellers.

Hogs.—Liberal receipts during the last half of the week at Chicago with spring demand curtailed on account of car scarcity caused sharp declines of \$1.25 to \$1.50, with slight recovery late Saturday. The Chicago market closed \$1.10 to \$1.50 lower on the bulk, with top \$1 lower at \$15.30. This decline came after a higher opening, when top at \$16.75 stood as high as any time since last October. The other three large western markets showed irregular and sharp fluctuations, East St. Louis registering losses of \$1.50 to \$2.50 on light and medium weights. Bulk at Kansas City declined \$1.25 to \$1.40, with top \$1.25 lower, while Omaha bulk was 75 to 85 cents lower, with lights only 25 to 50 cents off, although closing top was the same at \$15.

Sheep.—Continued unsettled shipping conditions resulted in irregular markets at all points. General trend of prices on shorn lambs was upward the first of the week, but

LIVE-STOCK PRICES, TUESDAY, APR. 27.

[Price per 100 pounds.]

	Chicago.		East St. Louis.	Kansas City.	Omaha.
	Apr. 27.	Apr. 20.	Apr. 27.	Apr. 27.	Apr. 27.
Hogs.					
Top.....	\$15.35	\$16.50	\$15.85	\$14.60	\$15.00
Bulk of sales.....	\$13.65-15.15	\$14.85-16.25	\$15.00-15.75	\$13.75-14.35	\$14.00-14.60
Heavy (250 pounds up), medium-choice.....	13.35-14.50	14.50-15.65	13.85-14.85	13.50-14.25	13.75-14.00
Medium (200-250 pounds), medium-choice.....	14.15-15.35	15.30-16.50	14.75-15.75	14.00-14.50	14.35-14.90
Light (150-200 pounds), common-choice.....	14.75-15.35	15.99-16.50	15.25-15.85	14.35-14.60	14.50-15.00
Light lights (130-150 pounds), common-choice.....	14.50-15.10	15.40-16.25	14.50-15.50	14.25-14.75	14.25-14.75
Packing sows (250 pounds up), smooth.....	12.00-13.00	13.00-14.00	11.75-12.00	12.25-12.50	13.50-13.75
Packing sows (250 pounds up), rough.....	11.75-12.25	12.50-13.25	11.50-11.75	11.75-12.00	13.25-13.50
Pigs (150 pounds down), medium-choice.....	13.25-15.00	14.00-15.75	12.00-15.00	12.00-14.75	12.50-14.50
Stock pigs (130 pounds down), common-choice.....					
Cattle.					
Beef steers:					
Medium and heavy (1,100 pounds up)—					
Choice and prime.....	13.00-14.25	13.15-15.00	13.50-14.00	12.25-13.00	12.50-13.50
Good.....	12.10-13.00	12.10-13.15	12.00-13.25	11.40-12.25	11.50-12.50
Medium.....	11.25-12.10	11.00-12.10	10.75-11.75	10.50-11.50	10.25-11.50
Common.....	10.50-11.25	10.00-11.00	10.00-10.75	9.00-10.50	9.50-10.25
Light weight (1,100 pounds down)—					
Choice and prime.....	13.00-14.50	13.15-15.15	13.50-14.00	12.20-13.80	12.50-13.50
Good.....	12.00-13.00	12.00-13.15	12.00-13.25	11.25-12.30	11.25-12.50
Medium.....	11.15-12.00	11.00-12.00	10.75-11.75	10.40-11.25	10.50-11.25
Common.....	10.00-11.15	9.75-11.00	9.50-10.75	8.90-10.40	8.75-10.50
Butcher cattle:					
Heifers, common-choice.....	7.75-13.75	7.15-13.75	9.00-14.50	7.25-12.75	7.00-11.75
Cows, common-choice.....	7.65-12.25	7.10-12.00	7.50-11.00	7.00-11.75	6.50-11.25
Bulls, bologna and beef.....	7.65-11.60	7.00-11.00	7.00-11.00	6.50-10.00	6.00-10.50
Cannery and cutters:					
Cows and heifers.....	4.50-7.65	4.25-7.10	4.50-7.25	4.50-6.90	4.25-6.50
Canner steers.....	6.00-8.25	6.00-8.25	5.25-7.50	5.75-7.00	6.00-7.50
Veal calves:					
Light and medium weight, medium-choice.....	12.00-14.00	14.00-16.00	12.50-13.50	13.50-15.00	13.00-14.50
Heavy weight, common-choice.....	7.00-11.00	7.50-12.00	8.00-12.00	6.25-11.00	6.50-11.00
Feeder steers:					
Heavy (1,000 pounds up), common-choice.....	9.00-11.35	9.40-11.85	9.50-10.50	9.25-11.25	9.00-11.80
Medium (800-1,000 pounds), common-choice.....	8.75-11.25	9.25-11.65	9.00-10.50	8.90-12.00	8.75-11.50
Light (800 pounds down), common-choice.....	8.50-11.00	9.00-11.50	9.00-10.00	8.50-10.90	8.50-11.25
Stocker cattle:					
Steers, common-choice.....	7.25-10.60	7.65-11.25	7.00-10.00	6.50-12.25	7.00-11.00
Cows and heifers, common-choice.....	7.25-9.00	7.50-9.25	6.00-8.50	6.00-10.25	5.75-9.00
Calves:					
Good and choice.....	9.25-11.00	9.50-11.25	9.00-10.50	8.00-11.25	9.00-10.50
Common and medium.....	8.00-9.25	8.00-9.50	7.00-9.60	6.00-8.25	6.50-9.00
Sheep.					
Lambs:					
84 pounds down, medium-prime.....	16.50-18.50	17.50-19.00	17.00-18.50	17.50-19.75	17.25-17.75
85 pounds up, medium-prime.....					16.50-17.50
Culls and common.....	11.75-16.00	12.50-17.00	15.50-17.00	14.50-17.25	13.00-16.50
Spring lambs, medium, good, and choice.....			19.00-21.00		
Feeder lambs.....	13.00-15.00	13.00-15.00			14.00-16.00
Yearlings, wethers, medium-prime.....	13.75-16.50	14.00-16.75	15.50-17.00	15.50-17.50	14.00-15.50
Wethers, medium-prime.....	13.00-14.59	13.00-14.50	12.00-14.60	12.75-15.25	12.00-13.50
Ewes:					
Medium-good and choice.....	10.50-13.50	10.50-13.50	12.00-13.00	12.00-14.50	10.50-13.00
Culls and common.....	6.00-10.00	6.00-10.00		5.50-11.75	5.00-10.00

WHOLESALE PRICES WESTERN DRESSED MEATS, TUESDAY, APR. 27, 1920.

[Price per 100 pounds.]

	Chicago.			New York.		
	Apr. 27.	Apr. 20.	Mar. 30.	Apr. 27.	Apr. 20.	Mar. 30.
Fresh beef:						
Steers—						
Choice.....						
Good.....	\$19.00-20.00	\$21.00-22.50	\$20.00-22.00	\$20.00-22.00	\$23.00-24.00	\$20.00-21.00
Medium.....	17.50-19.00	19.00-20.50	18.00-19.50	18.00-20.00	21.00-22.00	19.00-20.00
Common.....	16.00-17.00	17.00-19.00	16.50-18.00	14.00-17.00	20.00-21.00	17.00-19.00
Cows—						
Good.....	16.50-17.50	17.50-18.50	17.00-18.00	18.00-19.00	19.00-21.00	17.00-19.00
Medium.....	15.00-16.50	16.50-17.50	16.00-17.00	16.00-18.00	18.00-19.00	16.00-17.00
Common.....	14.50-15.00	15.00-16.50	15.00-16.00	15.50-16.00		15.50-16.00
Bulls—						
Good.....						14.00-15.00
Medium.....				16.00-18.00	14.00-18.00	13.00-13.50
Common.....	11.00-11.50	11.50-12.25	11.00-12.00	13.00-16.00		12.00-12.50
Fresh lamb and mutton:						
Lambs—						
Choice.....	33.00-34.00	33.00-34.00	31.00-33.00	32.00-34.00	40.00-42.00	31.00-34.00
Good.....	31.00-33.00	31.00-33.00	29.00-31.00	30.00-32.00	38.00-40.00	28.00-30.00
Medium.....	30.00-31.00	30.00-31.00	28.00-29.00	28.00-30.00		25.00-26.00
Common.....	26.00-29.00	26.00-29.00	24.00-27.00	25.00-27.00		23.00-24.00
Mutton—						
Good.....	24.00-25.00		24.00-25.00	22.00-24.00	28.00-32.00	24.00-26.00
Medium.....	22.00-24.00		22.00-23.50	20.00-21.00	26.00-28.00	21.00-23.00
Common.....	20.00-22.00		18.00-22.00	18.00-20.00		17.00-19.00
Fresh veal:						
Choice.....	25.00-26.00	26.00-27.00	30.00-31.00			
Good.....	22.00-25.00	23.00-26.00	27.50-30.00	28.00-30.00	31.00-33.00	28.00-30.00
Medium.....	20.00-21.00	21.00-23.00	24.50-27.00	25.00-27.00	28.00-30.00	24.00-27.00
Common.....	16.00-19.00	16.00-20.00	22.00-24.00	22.00-24.00	24.00-28.00	20.00-22.00
Fresh pork cuts:						
Pork loins—						
8-10 lbs. average.....	32.00-33.00	35.00-33.00	32.00-34.00	34.00-36.00	37.00-38.00	30.00-31.00
10-12 lbs. average.....	30.00-32.00	32.00-35.00	30.00-31.00	31.00-32.00	32.00-34.00	28.00-29.00
12-14 lbs. average.....	29.00-30.00	30.00-32.00	27.00-29.00	30.00-31.00	29.00-31.00	26.00-28.00
14 lbs. and over.....	26.00-28.00	29.00-30.00	26.00-27.00	28.00-30.00	28.00-29.00	25.00-26.00
Shoulders—						
Plain.....						
Skinned.....	22.00-23.00	22.00-24.00	23.00-24.00		24.00-25.00	21.00-23.00
Picnics—						
4-6 lbs. average.....	19.00	20.00-21.00	20.00-21.50			
6-8 lbs. average.....	18.00	19.00-20.00	19.00-20.00	23.00-25.00	23.00-24.00	19.00-20.00
8 lbs. and over.....	17.00	18.00-19.00	18.00-19.00			
Butts—						
Boneless.....				31.00-32.00	34.00-35.00	29.00-30.00
Boston style.....	27.00-28.00	27.00-30.00	26.00-29.00	28.00-30.00	30.00-32.00	25.00-26.00

declines were registered the last two market days. Closing prices on shorn lambs were unevenly 25 to 50 cents higher. Woolled lambs, however, closed 25 to 50 cents lower and killers were discriminating sharply against woolled stock on the close. Choice shorn lambs sold at Chicago on Thursday up to \$19.25, a record for that market, and the bulk of good to choice shorn lambs at four western markets cashed from \$17.50 to \$19. Prime Colorado woolled lambs reached \$21.75, the record to date this year, at Chicago and the bulk of the good to choice woolled lambs at the four markets sold from \$20 to \$21.50. A few lots of spring lambs offered at Chicago sold from \$21 to \$24. Feeder trade was extremely light. Shearers bought a few lambs from \$20 to \$20.50. Sheep continued in light supply and prices ruled mostly steady. Good to choice, woolled ewes went at \$15 to \$15.50 at Chicago where most of the shorn ewes sold from \$12 to \$13.50.

Opening, April 26.—Marked reduction in receipts were noted. General tendency of opening prices for beef steers and she-stock was steady to 25 cents higher, with other classes steady to strong. Calves, however, displayed weakness at most markets. Hogs sold mostly 25 to 60 cents higher, although Chicago weakened off 25 to 40 cents after an early top of \$15.70. East St. Louis had high top price at \$15.85, with Omaha's top at \$14.90 and Kansas City's at \$14.50. Sheep and lambs opened unevenly strong at Kansas to steady to 50 cents lower elsewhere. Best woolled lambs sold at Chicago \$20.50 and shorn lambs at \$18.25.

FRESH MEAT SUPPLIES INCREASING.

Prices Sharply Lower.

(Boston, Chicago, New York, and Philadelphia.)

An increase in supplies of all fresh meats at the several markets during the week ending April 24 was accompanied by sharp declining prices, conditions at the close being generally unsettled with meats accumulating. These conditions were largely the result of more liberal receipts, a reaction from the advanced prices of the previous week, a curtailment in demand from retailers which covered immediate requirements only, and the stale condition of a large percentage of receipts, which necessitated quick sales. Transportation difficulties resulting from strike and railroad embargoes were mostly overcome, and conditions at all markets, except New York, were practically normal by the end of the week.

Beef.—The quality of beef receipts varied considerably from the usual market requirements, a larger percentage of low-grade light-weight steers and cows being offered. Price ranges, both at Chicago and the eastern markets, were widened by a decided tendency downward. Eastern markets, however, showed the heaviest declines, week-end prices at Philadelphia ranging \$2 to \$3 lower and at New York and Boston \$3 to \$5 lower than the close of the previous week. Chicago prices declined \$1 to \$2 on steers and 50 cents to \$1 on cows, with low-grade beef most affected. While bulls were offered in limited quantities, the unusually slow demand caused a widening of price ranges with the tendency mostly downward. Kasher beef markets were weak after Monday, Chicago and New York showing the heaviest declines.

Veal.—Reacting from the arbitrary advances at the eastern markets at the beginning of the previous week, veal markets were sharply lower and prices at the close were practically in line with two weeks ago. Barring fluctuations in prices during

RECEIPTS, SHIPMENTS, AND LOCAL SLAUGHTER.

Week Ending Apr. 24.

Market.	Cattle and calves.			Hogs.			Sheep.		
	Re- ceipts.	Ship- ments.	Local slaugh- ter.	Re- ceipts.	Ship- ments.	Local slaugh- ter.	Re- ceipts.	Ship- ments.	Local slaugh- ter.
Chicago.....	102,865	22,072	80,793	163,547	42,936	120,611	57,624	19,046	38,578
East St. Louis.....	17,950	1,319	16,585	62,756	20,722	48,085	4,574	467	3,603
Indianapolis.....	12,363	7,318	4,873	41,465	21,975	14,895	3,372	211	181
Kansas City.....	26,923	6,348	19,619	43,345	2,394	34,432	31,350	9,011	16,589
Oklahoma City.....	11,859	2,854	7,780	13,040	1,550	11,915	11	6	7
Omaha.....	38,134	12,801	23,108	78,766	23,229	57,897	33,904	11,644	31,314
St. Joseph.....	16,495	6,848	7,955	56,903	17,227	36,275	14,148	2,257	9,392
St. Paul.....	21,044	6,597	12,361	34,595	4,778	29,541	1,880	1,031	379
Sioux City.....	18,331	7,847	10,663	52,613	20,098	32,338	3,624	611	2,673
Wichita.....	8,245	6,180	2,294	10,243	313	7,620	6,317	5,498	25
Total.....	274,209	80,184	186,061	557,273	155,222	393,609	153,834	49,783	102,741
Previous week.....	121,309	54,663	99,820	189,861	52,763	162,819	106,709	11,210	95,526

¹ Week ending Friday, Apr. 23.

the week at Chicago, conditions at the close of the week were more nearly normal and prices were steady with those of the previous week.

Pork.—The bulk of the pork loin offerings at the eastern markets was frozen, and prices during the first half of the week were generally steady. Increased supplies of fresh loins after midweek had a weakening effect on the markets and prices were sharply lowered, Philadelphia showing the greatest declines. The demand for cuts at Chicago was very uneven and resulted in advances of \$1 to \$2 on spare ribs and butts and declines of \$1 to \$2 on loins.

Lamb.—The Chicago lamb market showed no changes in prices after the close of the previous week, supply and demand being about equal. Conditions at the eastern markets were unsettled and prices declined from day to day. Liberal offerings of New Zealand lambs and increased receipts of western dressed stock, together with the sharp and uneven price advances of the previous week, had a depressing effect on the markets and sharp declines after midweek were general. Philadelphia prices closed \$8 lower than Monday, New York \$7, and Boston \$4 lower.

Mutton.—Only a small percentage of receipts of the ovine species were sold as mutton, while a liberal percentage of yearlings were sold as lambs. Although receipts were limited, there was a decided downward price tendency at the eastern markets, with the range \$2 to \$4 lower than the close of the previous week.

SPREAD BETWEEN HEAVY AND LIGHT HOGS NARROW AT KANSAS CITY.

Although the market was unsettled by the switchmen's strike and the situation was abnormal during the week ending April 17, a narrowing in the spread between the prices of heavy and light hogs was apparent on the Kansas City market. During the week ending April 10 there was virtually a \$2 spread between choice 300-pound hogs and best lights. At the close of the week following, this spread was narrowed to \$1.50. The spread which had been maintained for some time between the prices of choice heavy butchers weighing 260 to 290 pounds and light hogs also narrowed. When light hogs were topping around \$15.25, during the week ending April 17, grades weighing 260 pounds were selling upward of \$15, whereas two weeks previously the spread was practically \$1 between prices of 260 and 200-pound hogs. Decreased receipts of heavy finished hogs and an increase, in proportion to the receipts, in the number of inferior quality lights is believed to have been the condition responsible for this trend in prices. The narrowing of the spread resulted from a simultaneous decline in light hog values and an advance in prices for the heavier weights.

STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS.

Week Ending Friday, Apr. 23.

Market origin:	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.
Chicago.....	3,964	.....	4,423
East St. Louis.....	939	982	.....
Fort Worth.....	11,169	498	270
Indianapolis.....	590	249	49
Kansas City.....	3,573	1,362	1,623
Oklahoma City.....	2,435	1,001	.....
Omaha.....	5,534	128	4,829
St. Joseph.....	1,373	422	.....
St. Paul.....	5,974	3,147	.....
Sioux City.....	2,152	397	.....
Wichita.....	4,932	313	.....
Total.....	43,055	8,499	11,194
Previous week.....	29,763	8,805	1,929
State destination:			
Arkansas.....	149	.....	.....
Illinois.....	3,214	1,924	3,381
Indiana.....	831	249	49
Iowa.....	5,533	1,995	147
Kansas.....	10,109	414	.....
Kentucky.....	48	.....	.....
Louisiana.....	742	.....	.....
Michigan.....	74	.....	645
Minnesota.....	2,136	627	.....
Mississippi.....	30	.....	.....
Missouri.....	2,484	1,100	3,959
Montana.....	41	.....	.....
Nebraska.....	3,362	293	1,376
New York.....	286	.....	.....
North Dakota.....	385	.....	.....
Ohio.....	48	.....	.....
Oklahoma.....	8,648	272	.....
Pennsylvania.....	40	.....	.....
South Carolina.....	13	.....	.....
South Dakota.....	551	159	.....
Tennessee.....	199	.....	.....
Texas.....	1,572	181	270
Wisconsin.....	2,540	1,285	1,367
Total.....	43,055	8,499	11,194

DAILY AVERAGE WEIGHT AND COST OF HOGS.

Week Ending Apr. 24, 1920.

[Price per 100 pounds.]

Market.	Chicago.		East St. Louis.		Kansas City.		Omaha.	
	Av. wt.	Av. cost.	Av. wt.	Av. cost.	Av. wt.	Av. cost.	Av. wt.	Av. cost.
Mon.....	239	\$15.65	201	\$16.23	252	\$14.84	251	\$14.76
Tues.....	212	15.51	200	16.00	245	14.67	249	14.45
Wed.....	249	15.53	223	16.16	237	14.68	252	14.41
Thurs.....	250	15.01	213	15.81	241	14.08	256	13.81
Fri.....	233	14.33	218	14.77	228	13.42	251	13.59
Sat.....	256	13.85	210	14.67	231	13.37	250	13.89
Average:								
This wk	246	14.88	210	15.17	241	14.38	252	14.17
Last wk	248	15.19	218	14.46	241	14.08	250	14.24
4 weeks ago...	247	14.94	202	15.78	228	15.16	250	14.31

The above averages are computed on packer and shipper purchases.

Do You Receive Extra Copies?

If you are receiving regularly more copies of the Market Reporter than you require, please notify the Bureau of Markets and return all the envelopes in which they were mailed. It is the desire of the Bureau of Markets that the Market Reporter reach only those persons who have use for it and in such numbers only as they require.

WOOL SITUATION IN NEW ZEALAND.

Reports regarding wool in New Zealand indicate that in the main the clip is above the average, especially in the north Auckland district, where the wool is reported to be softer and with fewer breaks than usually come from a change in weather conditions or loss of feed for a period, according to a report of the American Consul General at Auckland, dated February 14.

The growers in general are entirely satisfied with the valuation fixed for that part of this season's clip taken by the British Government. There is much uneasiness, however, relative to the wool that may be on hand June 30, when the British Government requisition ends. It is feared that the large stocks of wool in England and in New Zealand will have a tendency to depreciate the price and make it difficult for growers to dispose of next season's clip in the open market.

This prospect is being generally discussed, and it seems to be recognized that the growers must look to new markets to a considerable extent during the next season. American buyers will probably find New Zealand an open field after July 1.

Review of the Industry.

New Zealand has an area of 66,292,232 acres, being about the size of Great Britain. On April 30, 1919, the island pastured 25,828,554 sheep. Sheep were brought into New Zealand soon after its settlement by Europeans, in the year 1840. At the beginning only merinos were imported, but in 1887, when the export of refrigerated meat to England began, it was found that more money was made by raising sheep for high-grade mutton, as well as for a good grade of wool; hence there came a demand for heavier breeds of stock, combining a good grade of mutton and wool.

According to a report of the American Vice Consul at Auckland, the Government of New Zealand, recognizing the paramount importance of the sheep industry, has done everything possible to foster and encourage the business and advance the interests of the sheep grower.

Classes.—On account of good breeding, succulent feed, sweet grasses, and climatic characteristics, the wools of New Zealand are highly regarded; they are sound and soft handling, with good color rather than long staple, with a freedom from breaks and other imperfections resulting from drouths or sudden climatic changes.

The wools are of low shrinkage, being almost free from sand and dirt, especially in the North Island. In recent years the production of crossbred wools has increased remarkably, until the proportion of merino to crossbred is extremely low. Several reliable authorities have stated that the wool pays for all expenses in connection with the raising of sheep, leaving the mutton a clear profit.

New Zealand wool is packed in bales carrying an average of 40 to 60 (merino 100) fleeces to the bale, the average weight being 370 pounds. This average, however, is not always maintained, for some grades of the lighter wools run as low as 300 pounds to the bale; but as a general thing the large majority of the bales range between 350 and 390 pounds.

The wools are very carefully prepared and classed, and sold under the owner's trademark. The growers have taken great pride in maintaining a high degree of excellence. It is noted, however, that with the coming of small flocks the owners seem to be taking less interest in the proper classification of their wools, and that wool-trade journals

MONTHLY REPORT OF WOOL ENTERING INTO MANUFACTURE, MARCH.

Quantities Entering into Manufacture According to Condition, Classes, and Grades.

Class and grade.	Grease.		Scoured.		Pulled.		Total.	
	Mar., 1920.	Mar., 1919.	Mar., 1920.	Mar., 1919.	Mar., 1920.	Mar., 1919.	Mar., 1920.	Mar., 1919.
Fine:								
Combing—	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.
Domestic.....	6,125,301	3,341,461	53,213	110,060	66,555	78,179	6,245,069	3,529,709
Foreign.....	6,969,000	3,569,161	134,793	3,532	.....	.....	7,103,793	3,572,693
Clothing—								
Domestic.....	691,508	800,510	1,044,614	494,681	129,340	194,878	1,865,462	1,490,069
Foreign.....	447,969	196,294	1,492,017	745,525	13,393	21,533	1,953,379	563,352
1/2 Blood:								
Combing—								
Domestic.....	4,463,737	2,121,895	76,359	41,443	68,774	196,147	4,608,870	2,359,485
Foreign.....	3,514,807	1,731,637	21,616	71,583	30,086	.....	3,566,509	1,833,229
Clothing—								
Domestic.....	886,030	113,517	579,958	381,243	566,248	178,084	1,832,236	672,844
Foreign.....	217,528	24,141	269,701	156,985	41,683	1,212	619,912	182,333
3/8 Blood:								
Combing—								
Domestic.....	4,666,512	2,363,859	185,526	106,596	264,833	259,185	5,146,876	2,729,640
Foreign.....	3,470,017	470,382	355,944	9,489	13,965	.....	3,839,926	479,812
Clothing—								
Domestic.....	248,626	228,818	1,505,372	688,075	233,586	237,859	2,087,584	1,154,752
Foreign.....	92,112	44,261	570,102	282,997	20,419	110,892	682,633	238,150
1/4 Blood:								
Combing—								
Domestic.....	3,445,772	1,462,247	241,687	85,552	289,372	218,869	3,976,831	1,766,663
Foreign.....	4,396,837	1,681,860	315,424	64,784	27,725	25,358	4,739,986	1,772,002
Clothing—								
Domestic.....	200,319	132,672	615,841	358,532	130,623	104,645	946,783	595,849
Foreign.....	462,979	91,539	485,901	344,382	11,070	16,403	959,950	452,324
Low or Lineoln:								
Combing—								
Domestic.....	209,607	56,954	24,837	47,100	1,025	3,331	235,469	107,385
Foreign.....	1,222,595	720,159	62,051	10,681	21,156	13,841	1,305,802	744,681
Clothing—								
Domestic.....	10,308	18,289	40,132	24,732	2,308	301	52,748	43,322
Foreign.....	.....	800	119,591	84,816	2,200	.....	121,791	85,616
Carpet:								
Combing, foreign.....	2,721,506	1,515,305	103,910	68,867	44,823	11,934	2,870,239	1,596,159
Filling, foreign.....	2,814,444	1,911,949	490,198	315,415	134,233	61,021	3,438,875	2,288,385
Grade not stated:								
Domestic.....	1,950	561,924	11,703	9,115	27,831	.....	41,484	571,030
Foreign.....	88,515	11,000	13,880	9,581	.....	.....	102,395	20,581
Total:								
Domestic.....	21,049,670	11,202,146	4,379,242	2,347,129	1,610,500	1,471,478	27,039,412	15,020,753
Foreign.....	26,418,309	11,968,438	4,826,128	2,168,628	360,753	162,244	31,335,199	14,299,310
Grand total.....	47,467,979	23,170,584	8,905,370	4,515,757	1,971,253	1,633,722	58,344,602	29,320,063

Quantities Entering into Manufacture According to States in Which Manufactured.

State.	Grease.		Scoured.		Pulled.		Total.	
	Mar., 1920.	Mar., 1919.	Mar., 1920.	Mar., 1919.	Mar., 1920.	Mar., 1919.	Mar., 1920.	Mar., 1919.
	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.
Massachusetts.....	20,543,893	9,539,610	3,235,753	1,532,328	761,311	346,139	24,540,957	11,400,077
Pennsylvania.....	6,925,681	3,461,350	867,864	334,330	342,823	330,411	8,136,373	4,125,091
Rhode Island.....	6,084,278	3,070,759	459,235	227,435	207,443	277,832	6,750,955	3,576,076
New Jersey.....	5,338,992	1,624,874	233,315	51,781	12,741	35,128	5,584,958	1,711,783
New York.....	3,747,878	2,098,830	825,814	529,547	151,139	135,258	4,724,831	2,763,635
Connecticut.....	868,429	557,651	1,045,237	723,118	142,415	172,543	2,056,081	1,453,312
New Hampshire.....	1,338,558	977,445	467,895	206,320	47,898	40,203	1,794,351	1,223,968
Ohio.....	1,386,097	990,270	81,973	26,291	23,731	45,239	1,491,801	1,061,800
Maine.....	312,096	149,471	564,805	250,425	78,146	78,973	956,048	478,869
Pacific Coast States..	130,342	69,216	269,077	86,857	35,300	10,571	434,719	166,644
Total.....	46,676,154	22,530,476	7,990,969	3,968,432	1,803,952	1,472,347	56,471,075	27,971,255
Other States.....	791,825	640,108	914,401	547,325	167,301	161,375	1,873,527	1,348,808
Grand total.....	47,467,979	23,170,584	8,905,370	4,515,757	1,971,253	1,633,722	58,344,602	29,320,063

Schedules were sent to 572 textile manufacturing concerns in the United States. Twenty-four concerns reported no wool consumed, 3 returned schedules stating that their raw material consisted of tops, yarns, and wastes, while no reports have been received from 4 concerns. Based on their average monthly consumption for 6 calendar months, it is estimated that the 4 concerns not included used 325,000 pounds of grease wool, 75,000 pounds of scoured wool, and 6,000 pounds of pulled wool.

The amount of wool consumed in March exceeded the monthly average for 1918 and 1919 but fell below the high mark reached in January of this year. On a grease basis, 57,900,000 pounds of wool were consumed, compared with 34,000,000 pounds in March, 1919, and 71,900,000 pounds in March, 1918. According to conditions reported, the amounts consumed in pounds were: Grease, 47,467,979; scoured, 8,905,370; pulled, 1,971,253. The percentages of the various grades used were: Fine, 29.4; 1/2 blood, 18.2; 3/8 blood, 20.1; 1/4 blood, 18.2; low, 3; and carpet, 10.8.

detect a slight falling off in the grading and general preparation of the wool clip for market.

Prices.—In selling the wool the New Zealand growers seldom dispose of their clip at the woolshed, but when the demand is great, in normal times about 10 per cent is sold in this way. Considering that the weight and value of wool varies greatly according to the breed, a fair average of the yearly clip of a representative flock is 8 pounds per head, valued at about \$2.40.

The British Government has taken practically the entire clip since 1915, and has

contracted for the entire surplus until July 1, 1920, at prices ranging from 27 to 45 cents per pound.

With the natural growth of the country, the home consumption of both wool and mutton will doubtless reduce to a certain extent the surplus now shipped overseas, while the growing value of lands suitable for sheep raising will add somewhat to the cost of production. It is not probable, therefore, that in the near future there will be any great change in the number of sheep in New Zealand or that the wool or mutton production will increase to any extent.

IMPORTS OF WOOL DURING MARCH, 1920.

Amount of unmanufactured wool imported into the United States according to condition and country of origin.
[Information furnished by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.]

Countries of origin.	Class 1.			Class 2.		Class 3.		Total quantity.	Total value.
	Un-washed.	Washed.	Scoured.	Washed and un-washed.	Scoured.	Washed and un-washed.	Scoured.		
	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Dollars.
Belgium.....	381,104		108,962				176,001	666,067	577,530
France.....	32,488	9,494						41,982	19,761
Greece.....						12,659		12,659	2,953
Russia in Europe.....	180,000							180,000	45,000
Spain.....	224,414		6,968			191,026		422,408	183,703
Turkey in Europe.....						208,683		208,683	39,798
England.....	6,508,939	173,040	1,485,288	207,993	5,604	598,909		8,979,773	7,295,417
Scotland.....						72,095		72,095	18,780
British Honduras.....				6,000				6,000	3,505
Canada.....	342,346	15,660	1,276					359,282	241,178
Guatemala.....	354							354	159
Dutch West Indies.....						7,490		7,490	2,197
Argentina.....	8,003,995	251,986	721,548	477,438		391,386		9,846,353	4,826,827
Bolivia.....	14,423	16,013						30,436	10,472
Chile.....	212,768	33,882				269,879		516,529	191,204
Peru.....	13,964	79,756				91,995		185,715	87,085
Uruguay.....	7,272,276			245,956		82,329		7,600,561	4,943,338
China.....	475	3,647				1,795,764		1,799,886	561,048
British India.....						2,250		2,250	225
Dutch East Indies.....						150		150	25
Hongkong.....	10							10	6
Russia in Asia.....						125,613		125,613	13,051
Turkey in Asia.....						285,759		285,759	70,427
British South Africa.....	163,705		116,468			385,552		667,725	530,300
Egypt.....						16,301		16,391	9,786
Total.....	23,353,261	583,478	2,440,510	937,387	5,604	4,537,840	176,001	32,034,081	19,673,775
Total for September.....	32,951,226	575,272	4,638,199	721,486	387	9,090,615	208,416	48,235,179	21,573,869
Total for October.....	26,143,513	467,669	1,800,680	2,153,076	5,274	13,547,509		44,126,941	20,391,296
Total for November.....	23,013,482	1,924,348	1,914,837	1,842,009	802	8,126,070	439,249	37,260,797	18,033,103
Total for December.....	9,263,249	1,320,625	1,449,718	417,633		6,100,301	22,940	18,574,466	8,838,352
Total for January.....	32,503,838	1,034,281	1,965,019	106,217	20	5,477,465	59,663	41,146,503	17,874,376
Total for February.....	18,750,345	335,703	1,814,358	388,908	7,100	3,727,631	121,336	25,145,381	14,214,409

ANIMALS¹ SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL MEAT INSPECTION.

(Bureau of Animal Industry).

Station.	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Goats.	Swine.
JANUARY.					
Chicago.....	200,970	60,583	228,455	156	853,728
Fort Worth.....	17,855	12,667	6,071	481	53,453
Kansas City.....	95,321	21,987	95,282	447	337,215
National Stock Yards.....	40,874	14,781	30,558	126	216,325
Omaha.....	84,980	13,345	135,636	1	281,251
St. Louis.....	16,422	4,335	4,508	1	167,676
Sioux City.....	31,526	3,513	35,963		171,639
South St. Joseph.....	33,185	8,863	57,193	25	250,570
All other establishments.....	305,098	165,051	360,941	344	2,746,664
Total:					
January, 1920.....	832,231	305,125	954,607	1,581	5,078,521
January, 1919.....	1,119,200	294,812	1,003,880	3,433	5,845,696
FEBRUARY.					
Chicago.....	152,769	51,923	220,709	14	472,476
Fort Worth.....	10,946	6,431	5,169	83	40,933
Kansas City.....	64,673	19,006	95,712	203	182,665
National Stock Yards.....	36,177	10,630	23,244	25	114,187
Omaha.....	56,516	11,434	115,658		153,641
St. Louis.....	12,149	3,934	2,883		108,659
Sioux City.....	27,287	2,663	21,605		116,983
South St. Joseph.....	27,834	6,715	61,862		106,943
All other establishments.....	241,819	171,865	279,998	175	1,794,528
Total:					
February, 1920.....	630,170	284,601	826,840	500	3,091,015
February, 1919.....	701,353	209,834	753,940	1,587	4,266,317
MARCH.					
Chicago.....	153,181	68,697	174,049	1	508,039
Fort Worth.....	19,648	6,214	12,775	305	52,541
Kansas City.....	71,462	22,820	106,027	141	250,931
National Stock Yards.....	33,374	13,483	20,557		133,667
Omaha.....	68,328	9,429	126,267	1	217,656
St. Louis.....	12,120	5,267	3,331		127,379
Sioux City.....	22,697	2,925	11,517	2	114,421
South St. Joseph.....	21,705	6,865	60,098		154,224
South St. Paul.....	23,715	40,761	7,161		177,721
All other establishments.....	256,909	213,592	266,085	161	1,745,101
Total:					
March, 1920.....	683,139	390,053	787,867	611	3,481,680
March, 1919.....	640,288	295,388	737,836	1,517	3,443,330
9 months ended March, 1920.....	7,787,413	3,046,986	10,131,219	54,591	29,228,339
9 months ended March, 1919.....	9,254,721	2,572,449	8,634,814	96,716	33,719,025

¹Horses slaughtered at all establishments: January, 122; February, 268; March, 123.

SPACE FOR COLD-STORAGE EGGS.

The Bureau of Markets, United States Department of Agriculture, has made a survey to ascertain the space available in cold storage for the carrying of eggs during the coming season. The result of this investigation indicates that during the months of April and May there will be sufficient space available to store about 35 per cent more than were placed in cold storage during these two months last year and about 2½ per cent more than were held at the height of last season.

Although, taking the country as a whole, this situation indicates that there is plenty of space available for eggs in cold storage for the coming season, there appears to be a shortage in certain sections. The Middle Atlantic States will have sufficient space available during April and May to hold about 16 per cent more eggs than were stored during these months last year, but have not enough space to hold last year's maximum stocks. The North Central States east of the Mississippi River, can store about 30 per cent more during April and May than they did last year during the same period, but are 10 per cent short of last year's maximum.

The space in the larger warehouses in the larger cities seems to be somewhat restricted and they can probably handle no more eggs than they did last year, while the smaller warehouses in outlying sections have never been filled to their utmost capacity. It is quite probable, however, that in the larger cities other goods may be moved out during June and July and space thereby made available for additional egg storage.

The reports showed that about 13 per cent of the available space was already contracted for by April 1. Concerns desiring space for the storage of eggs for the coming season may obtain definite information regarding available space by communicating with the Bureau of Markets.

Comparison of June 1, 1919, case egg holdings with space available during April and May, 1920.

Section.	Stor-ages.	Holdings June 1, 1919.	Space available during April and May.	Per cent in-crease.
		Cases.	Cases.	
New England.....	19	264,276	301,600	+ 14.1
Middle Atlantic.....	13	1,844,880	2,134,167	+ 15.7
South Atlantic.....	53	77,327	232,880	+201.2
N. Central (E.).....	51	1,613,640	2,102,360	+ 30.3
N. Central (W.).....	56	826,970	1,300,880	+ 64.6
South Central.....	23	73,270	178,800	+144.0
Western (N.).....	25	83,289	142,403	+ 21.0
Western (S.).....	26	199,292	253,417	+ 27.2
Total.....	266	4,982,944	6,706,507	+ 34.6

Comparison of Aug. 1, 1919, case egg holdings with space available during April and May, 1920.

Section.	Stor-ages.	Holdings Aug. 1, 1919.	Space available during April and May.	Change.
		Cases.	Cases.	P. ct.
New England.....	19	296,032	301,600	+ 1.9
Middle Atlantic.....	53	2,197,644	2,134,167	- 2.9
South Atlantic.....	13	123,788	232,880	+88.1
N. Central (E.).....	51	2,341,052	2,102,360	-10.2
N. Central (W.).....	56	1,146,230	1,300,880	+18.7
South Central.....	23	106,171	178,800	+68.4
Western (N.).....	25	93,701	142,403	+52.0
Western (S.).....	26	242,372	253,417	+ 4.6
Total.....	266	6,547,050	6,706,507	+ 2.4

NOTE.—The above figures do not represent the entire available space in the country, but are taken from reports sent to the bureau by the more important egg storage warehouses and are to be considered as an indication of available space for egg storage and not an exact or accurate statement for the whole country. The issue of The Market Reporter for Apr. 3, p. 213, gave a complete statement of the reported holdings of cold-storage eggs by months, 1916-1920.

DAIRY AND POULTRY

STRIKE KEEPS BUTTER MARKETS UNSETTLED.

The serious interruption in the movement of shipments to distributing centers during the week ending April 24 kept butter markets unsettled. Rumors that the strike had been settled suggested price declines, but actual settlement has been so slow and uncertain and receipts so light that prices advanced to new record levels at New York and Philadelphia, and the normal price relations between the various markets were completely upset. Another outstanding feature of the week was the difference between New York and Chicago prices, which on one day widened to 12½ cents. New York has had difficulty in securing supplies, and most arrivals have been by express. Two cars were received from California and several from Canada.

The Danish butter which arrived some time ago was practically all cleaned up early in the week and a serious shortage developed. On the other hand, the only limit to activity in Chicago was the ability to make arrangements for shipping. While there were price advances in other markets, Boston showed an actual decline under the previous week. Receipts of fresh butter there were liberal, including shipments diverted from Chicago as well as numerous shipments from nearby creameries and condenseries. The Boston trade is still using storage supplies, and as the movement of any quantity of fresh butter to New York was impossible the market broke and prices declined, being 7 cents under New York at the close of the week but still 4½ cents above Chicago.

Reports of production indicate some increase, but the percentage is small. Shipments from some of those sections where the manufacture is increasing were very irregular, but the demand for anything which would pass as table stock was so great that this butter and other undergrade butter on the market moved fairly well. Price declines seem inevitable, but the length of time before prices again become normal is still a matter of conjecture.

LACK OF SHIPPING AFFECTS TRADE IN CHEESE.

Inability to move cheese on account of the strike continued to hamper trading during the week ending April 24. Receipts at distributing markets were almost twice as heavy as for the week before but were below normal and over 2,000,000 lighter than for the corresponding week a year ago. Difficulty in filling shipping orders, especially less-than-carload shipments, made it impossible for dealers generally to take care of more than local business, although some outside orders were handled by parcel post. A slight improvement in shipping toward the middle of the week at Wisconsin points resulted immediately in a fair volume of trading, but the inability to move small shipments had considerable effect on the market.

The week opened with a decline at Wisconsin primary markets, and Chicago alone fell in line with this drop. No price changes occurred in the eastern markets, where held cheese is still being depended upon more than current make. Storage stocks were reduced over 1,000,000 pounds in the four eastern distributing markets, over half of this reduction occurring in New York.

An active export demand developed during the week for Skims, whole-milk Undergrades, and Canadian Cheddars. More business is expected, especially on Cheddars, as export buyers have raised their bids somewhat. Scarcity in the supply of some styles was noticeable, dealers in New York having to split Twins to take care of the demand for Flats. On the whole, the week was rather unsatisfactory, but in varying degrees in different markets, depending upon the extent to which business was affected by the freight tie-up.

REVIEW OF FIVE PRINCIPAL MARKETS FOR WEEK ENDING APR. 24.

[New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, and San Francisco.]

BUTTER.

WHOLESALE PRICES (PER POUND) CREAMERY BUTTER, 92 SCORE.

	New York.	Chicago.	Philadelphia.	Boston.	San Francisco.
Monday.....	73	64½	73	70	56
Tuesday.....	74	64½	73½	70	56
Wednesday.....	75	64½	74½	70	55½
Thursday.....	77	64½	76	69	56½
Friday.....	77	64½	76	70	57½
Saturday.....	77	65½	76	70	57
Average for week...	75.50	64.62	74.83	69.80	56.50
Previous week.....	74.00	62.75	74.33	71.50	55.60
Corresponding week last year.....	63.83	64.25	64.30	61.50	54.75

COLD-STORAGE MOVEMENT OF BUTTER AT FIVE MARKETS (POUNDS).

	Week ending Apr. 24.	Previous week.	Last year.
Put into cold storage.....	931,113	609,434	1,173,189
Withdrawn from storage.....	2,090,715	2,055,873	524,893
Decrease during week.....	-1,159,602	-1,446,459	+648,296
Total holdings.....	6,592,423	7,752,025	6,885,320

RECEIPTS OF BUTTER AT FIVE MARKETS.

	Pounds.
Week ending Apr. 24, 1920.....	6,696,371
Previous week.....	2,878,767
Corresponding week last year.....	10,121,025

CHEESE.

WHOLESALE PRICES (PER POUND), AMERICAN CHEESE, NO. 1 TWINS.

	New York.	Chicago.	Boston.	San Francisco.	Wisconsin.
Monday.....	29-30	28-29	24½	29½	29½
Tuesday.....	29-30	28-29½	30-31	24½	29
Wednesday.....	29-30	28-29½	30-31	23½	28
Thursday.....	29-30	28-29½	30-31	23½	28
Friday.....	29-30	28-29½	30-31	24	28
Saturday.....	29-30	28-29½	30-31	24½	28
Average for week.....	29.50	28.29	30.50	24.00	28.37
Previous week.....	29.50	28.91	30-30	25.00	29.29
Corresponding week last year.....	31.16	29.73	33.05	27.22	29.27

1 Flats.

COLD-STORAGE MOVEMENT OF CHEESE AT FIVE MARKETS (POUNDS).

	Week ending Apr. 24.	Previous week.	Last year.
Put into cold storage.....	204,050	137,765	382,597
Withdrawn from storage.....	1,244,682	882,985	460,866
Decrease during week.....	-1,040,632	-745,220	-78,269
Total holdings.....	7,926,620	8,967,252	2,121,450

RECEIPTS OF CHEESE AT FIVE MARKETS.

	Pounds.
Week ending Apr. 24, 1920.....	1,974,556
Previous week.....	1,043,058
Corresponding week last year.....	4,215,157

EGGS.

COLD-STORAGE MOVEMENT OF EGGS AT FIVE MARKETS (DOZEN).

	Week ending Apr. 24.	Previous week.	Last year.
Put into cold storage.....	8,325,900	4,229,940	12,039,600
Withdrawn from storage.....	214,770	397,110	299,010
Increase during week.....	+8,111,130	+3,832,830	+11,743,560
Total holdings.....	16,414,530	8,303,400	42,460,110

RECEIPTS OF EGGS AT FIVE MARKETS.

	Dozen.
Week ending Apr. 24, 1920.....	14,984,220
Previous week.....	7,442,130
Corresponding week last year.....	13,050,570

DRESSED POULTRY.

COLD-STORAGE MOVEMENT OF DRESSED POULTRY AT FIVE MARKETS (POUNDS).

	Week ending Apr. 24.	Previous week.	Last year.
Put into cold storage.....	749,398	373,723	1,900,157
Withdrawn from storage.....	4,352,304	4,720,797	5,608,997
Decrease during week.....	-3,602,906	-4,347,074	-3,708,840
Total holdings.....	33,625,565	37,228,471	44,422,851

RECEIPTS OF DRESSED POULTRY AT FIVE MARKETS.

	Pounds.
Week ending Apr. 24, 1920.....	894,685
Previous week.....	833,151
Corresponding week last year.....	3,094,103

SQUAB PRICES.

New York City, Week Beginning Apr. 26.

Grade.	Price per dozen.	Grade.	Price per dozen.
12 lbs. to doz.....	\$13.00	7 lbs. to doz.....	\$7.00
11 lbs. to doz.....	12.00	6 lbs. to doz.....	6.00
10 lbs. to doz.....	11.00	Dark.....	5.00
9 lbs. to doz.....	10.00	Culls.....	1.75
8 lbs. to doz.....	9.00	Pigeons.....	2.00

CONDENSED-MILK MARKET.

Further Decline in Prices Paid for by Condenseries—Exports of Sweetened Condensed Milk Increase.

Current reports indicate some improvement in the markets for condensed and evaporated milk. Exports of condensed milk for the month of March were over 8½ million cases more than in February. The average domestic price declined 7 cents per pound on sweetened condensed and 52 cents on unsweetened evaporated milk. The slump in the price of the evaporated product is attributed to the free offerings of manufacturers who are carrying a large surplus and to the limited buying for export. Large stocks of evaporated milk which are held in warehouses abroad must be moved before much improvement may be expected in the export market.

Many manufacturers are attempting to increase the domestic demand for unsweetened evaporated milk by lower prices and consistent advertising. Some who have been making the unsweetened product are turning to the manufacture of sweetened goods, but the advanced prices and limited available stocks of sugar tend to restrict such change.

Manufacturers' stocks of both condensed and evaporated milk show large increases on April 1 over those of March 1, 1920. The unsold stocks in transit to or warehoused in New York City on April 1 were reported considerably larger. Unfilled orders for

condensed goods showed a large increase, while evaporated orders yet unfilled were much smaller than on March 1. Recent reports of the trade show that conditions are improving. An increased demand for bulk goods is expected this year for ice-cream manufacture and the recent efforts of manufacturers to curtail production to a minimum will probably reduce the supplies to the point of eliminating a large surplus from the market.

Prices paid producers for 3.5 per cent milk at condenseries.

[Per 100 pounds.]

Geographic section.	February.	March.	April.
New England.....	\$3.79	\$3.62	\$3.36
Middle Atlantic.....	3.59	3.48	2.79
South Atlantic.....	3.02	3.02	2.95
East North Central.....	3.35	3.02	2.86
West North Central.....	3.10	2.98	2.81
South Central.....			
Western (North).....	3.31	2.91	2.68
Western (South).....	3.22	2.76	2.59
United States....	3.48	3.17	2.82

Wholesale prices of condensed and evaporated milk, February and March.

Geographic section.	Sweetened condensed, case of 14-ounce cans.		Unsweetened evaporated, case of 16-ounce cans.	
	February.	March.	February.	March.
New England.....	\$8.71	\$8.76	\$5.68	\$5.17
Middle Atlantic.....	8.68	8.60	5.71	5.23
South Atlantic.....	8.83	8.81	5.68	5.21
East North Central.....	8.73	8.54	5.48	4.99
West North Central.....	8.86	8.77	5.82	5.08
South Central.....	8.83	8.81	5.56	5.16
Western (North).....	8.86	8.77	5.72	5.04
Western (South)....	8.86	8.77	5.60	5.21
United States....	8.77	8.70	5.64	5.12

Stocks and exports of condensed and evaporated milk.

	Apr. 1, 1920.	Mar. 1, 1920. ¹	Apr. 1, 1919.
Total stocks of condensed and evaporated milk.....	Pounds. 228,824,304	Pounds. 133,529,752	Pounds. 87,659,398
Unsold stocks of condensed and evaporated milk..	71,497,402	49,359,103	44,831,259
Unfilled orders for condensed and evaporated milk..	20,338,193	10,372,139	3,956,639
Exports from the United States:			
Condensed milk.....	30,831,413	22,143,666	
Evaporated milk.....	19,322,326	20,855,034	
Total.....	50,153,739	42,998,660	48,703,690

¹ Mar. 1, 1920, figures are not strictly comparable with Apr. 1, since fewer firms are included in the March report.

CONDENSED MILK SITUATION.

(Continued from front page.)

this country suddenly found the export demand greatly reduced because of the exchange situation, the increased production of condensed and evaporated milk in foreign countries, and accumulated stocks in warehouses abroad. Manufacturers realized they must readjust their factory operations to meet these conditions. Three things they could do to avert financial losses to themselves: (1) Curtail production by closing factories; (2) reduce the cost of milk purchased by paying farmers lower prices for milk at their factories; and (3) through advertising and salesmanship increase the domestic and foreign demand. The manufacturers are using these methods which should slowly bring about a readjustment of existing conditions.

The production of bulk and case goods of the various classes during the years 1916 to 1919, inclusive, is shown in an accompanying table. Of particular interest in this table are the figures showing the increased production of case goods, both condensed and evaporated, while the total whole milk product in the form of bulk goods actually showed a decrease, and the bulk portion of the skimmed goods product shows an increase.

Leading States in Production of Sweetened Condensed Milk.

The production of sweetened condensed milk (whole milk product, case goods) in 1919 in the United States amounted to 573,043,671 pounds, or 39 per cent above the 1918 production. With the exception of January there was an increase during every month of 1919 over the corresponding month of 1918. In May, 1919, the increase amounted to nearly 23 million pounds more than the production during May, 1918. With the exception of July and October the increase tended to diminish throughout the rest of the year. In December, 1919, it amounted to approximately 7 million pounds more than in December, 1918. Sweetened condensed milk was manufactured in 104 factories in 18 States during 1919 compared to 93 factories in 14 States in 1918. The States occupying the first six places in the production of sweetened condensed whole milk, case goods, during 1919 and 1918, are listed below in the order of importance:

Rank	1919		1918	
	State.	Pounds.	State.	Pounds.
1	New York....	325,859,685	New York....	215,828,237
2	Illinois.....	62,980,480	Illinois.....	55,362,320
3	Wisconsin....	49,692,409	Michigan....	41,026,506
4	Michigan....	47,632,435	Wisconsin....	40,644,203
5	Pennsylvania....	41,471,443	Pennsylvania....	21,364,121
6	Vermont.....	24,090,797	Vermont.....	19,056,676

Inasmuch as New York produces well over one-half of the total manufactured in the United States, and the above six States over 95 per cent, the industry can not be considered widespread. All six States showed a material increase in production over 1918, with the largest actual increase in New York, 110,031,448 pounds.

Production of Unsweetened Evaporated Milk Increased 30 per cent.

The production of unsweetened evaporated milk, unskimmed, case goods, in the United States during 1919 amounted to 1,194,496,107 pounds, an increase of 278,058,188 pounds, or 30.3 per cent, above the previous year. Although there was an increase in production during every month of the year compared with the corresponding months of 1918, the increases tended to become larger during the first half of the year

and smaller during the latter half. Evaporated milk was manufactured in 156 factories in 24 States in 1919 compared to 139 factories in 27 States in 1918. The States occupying the first 10 places in the production of unsweetened evaporated milk, unskimmed, case goods, during 1919 and 1918 are listed in the order of importance.

Rank	1919		1918	
	State.	Pounds.	State.	Pounds.
1	Wisconsin....	378,514,490	Wisconsin....	280,660,026
2	Washington....	126,091,712	Washington....	132,489,371
3	Michigan....	120,757,548	Illinois.....	92,613,757
4	Illinois.....	103,360,444	Michigan....	74,991,280
5	Pennsylvania....	88,831,988	Pennsylvania....	61,049,267
6	Ohio.....	88,796,950	Ohio.....	51,231,061
7	New York....	82,829,536	California....	43,255,879
8	California....	63,660,408	New York....	37,466,914
9	Oregon.....	32,189,906	Oregon.....	30,775,483
10	Utah.....	19,106,241	Indiana.....	18,661,281

Washington was the only one of the 10 leading States in 1919 showing a decrease in production under 1918. However, it was able to hold second place. Indiana dropped from tenth place in 1918 to fifteenth place in 1919. Wisconsin produced nearly 32 per cent of the total, or more than the combined output of Washington, Michigan, and Illinois.

The other classes of condensed and evaporated milk are relatively unimportant and as a consequence will not be discussed in detail. Those interested in additional production statistics of condensed and evaporated milk by States may obtain fuller information upon request to the Dairy Section of the U. S. Bureau of Markets.

Production of Evaporated Milk Modified with Foreign Fat Also Increased.

As a matter of more than passing interest it should be noted that evaporated milk, part or full skimmed, modified with foreign fat or vegetable oils, has been used in increasing quantities as a substitute for true evaporated milk for home consumption. While but 12,000 pounds were tinned in 1916, more than 62,000,000 pounds of the case goods were manufactured in 1919, as shown by the following table. In 1916, the production of the substitute compared with the production of true evaporated milk, case goods was negligible, while the production had increased to over 5 per cent by the close of 1919.

Production (in pounds) of evaporated milk (part or full skimmed) modified with foreign fat in the United States, 1916-1919.

Year.	Case.	Bulk.	Total.	Increase over previous year.
1916....	12,000	14,134,712	14,146,712	Per cent.
1917....	18,504	17,487,061	17,505,565	24
1918....	41,033,855	7,591,182	48,625,037	178
1919....	62,262,221	2,748,120	65,010,341	34

Production of Condensed and Evaporated Milk in the United States, 1916-1919.¹

WHOLE MILK PRODUCT.

(Thousands of pounds; i. e. 000 omitted.)

Year.	Condensed milk.			Evaporated milk.			Total condensed and evaporated.	Increase over previous year.
	Case.	Bulk.	Total.	Case.	Bulk.	Total.		
1916.....	267,307	20,767	288,073	524,273	106,939	631,212	919,285	Per cent.
1917.....	280,958	34,658	315,616	741,559	186,609	928,168	1,243,784	35
1918.....	411,225	49,872	461,097	916,438	183,612	1,100,050	1,552,147	25
1919.....	573,044	38,394	611,437	1,194,496	77,514	1,272,010	1,883,447	21

SKIM MILK PRODUCT.

1916.....	9,757	32,993	42,749	3,626	26,704	30,329	73,079	.....
1917.....	7,832	41,235	49,067	8,586	32,348	40,935	90,002	23
1918.....	8,653	46,303	54,957	12,049	56,782	68,831	123,787	38
1919.....	7,468	65,377	72,845	3,626	71,039	74,665	147,510	19

¹ The production of evaporated part or full skimmed milk modified with foreign fat is not included.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

PRICE TREND IRREGULAR.

Shipments Recover to About Usual Volume for Time of Year.

Most leading lines of fruits and vegetables were unchanged or somewhat lower during the week ending April 26. Apples, cabbage, and strawberries showed little change. Onions and potatoes were slightly lower. Sweet potatoes and tomatoes advanced. Shipments have quickly returned to about normal following more favorable transportation conditions. Car-lot movement was double that of the previous week, 6,377 cars moving compared with 3,183 the week before and 6,753 during the corresponding week last season.

Potato Markets Unsettled.

Demand became more moderate and price recession occurred in some consuming markets, but shipping points showed little change. At Minnesota f. o. b. stations prices held within a range of \$7.15 to \$7.60, closing \$7.25 to \$7.30 sacked per 100 pounds. Northern and Middlewestern Round Whites were steady in St. Louis and Kansas City at \$7.25 to \$8 until the close when prices in the middle western markets moved to a lower range of \$7 to \$7.75. New York No. 1 Round Whites sold early at \$7.35 to \$7.60 bulk per 100 pounds, closing lower at \$6.75 to \$7. Cleveland and Pittsburgh ranged \$7.50 to \$7.65, closing around \$6.65 for the same stock sacked per 100 pounds. Maine Green Mountains were slightly higher at f. o. b. shipping points, ranging \$5.93 to \$6.23 bulk per 100 pounds. In New York City prices ranged \$7.80 to \$8.35; about 75 cents lower than last week. Boston prices were steady at \$6.40 to \$6.75 sacked. Philadelphia prices ranged \$7.25 to \$7.85 sacked per 100 pounds, but values dropped at the close to a range of \$6.95 to \$7.10. Pittsburgh ranged mostly \$7.60 to \$7.65, closing around \$6.65 sacked per 100 pounds. Shipments increased nearly 400 cars over the previous week, 1,596 cars moving compared with 1,226 last week., but were about 1,000 below the rate of movement during the corresponding period last season when 2,579 cars moved.

Apples Steady.

New York A2½ Baldwins were slow and steady in Chicago at \$8 to \$8.50 per barrel. Sales in Philadelphia were higher at \$9 to \$10. Middle western Ben Davis held its range at \$7.50 to \$8, with Minneapolis slightly higher at \$8.50 to \$9. Northwestern boxed Wine-saps, extra fancy, were in moderate demand and prices steady at \$3.50 to \$4 in middle western markets and \$4.50 to \$5 in New York. Shipments of boxed stock were at about the rate of last week and barreled apples showed a material increase. Shipments of boxed apples were 218 cars compared with 216 the previous week and 60 during the corresponding week last year. Shipments of barreled stock were 234 cars compared with 69 of the previous week and 173 cars during the corresponding week last season. Shipments for the season are close to 80,000 cars and at present rate the movement will exceed that of last season by at least 15 per cent. A loss of about 5,000 cars from the barrel States is far more than offset by a gain of about 15,000 cars from the box apple section.

Onions Lower.

Haulings were heavy at Texas shipping points. Nos. 1 and 2 Yellow mixed declined

gradually to a close of \$2.15 to \$2.30 f. o. b. cash track, ruling 85 cents to \$1 below last week. Chicago closed 50 cents higher at \$4.75 to \$5.25 for Texas Yellows Nos. 1 and 2. St. Louis was lower at \$4.50 per standard crate, and Kansas City also closed lower at \$3.75 to \$4. Cleveland and Pittsburgh were above the middle western markets at \$6 to \$6.50. Eastern Yellow varieties sold at \$7.25 to \$8.50 in Philadelphia and \$9 to \$10 in Pittsburgh. New Onions moved at twice the rate of last season. Shipments were 657 cars compared with 221 the previous week and 339 cars during the corresponding week last year. Old onion shipments were 46 cars, compared with 27 the previous week and 64 during the corresponding week last season.

Cabbage Steady.

Supplies of new cabbage were more liberal, with demand fair. Prices ranges at about the levels reported last week. Florida Wake-fields in 1½-bushel hampers sold at \$1.50 to \$2.50 in Baltimore, New York, and Philadelphia, and \$1.50 to \$2 in Cincinnati. Packed in barrel crates the same stock sold lower in the East than in the Middle West, ranging \$2.50 to \$4 in Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York, and higher in Cincinnati at about \$4.50, and in Detroit at \$6 to \$7 per 100 pounds. Alabama pointed type was reported selling in Cincinnati at \$4.50 to \$5 per 100-pound crate. Texas stock followed a wide range. Demand and movement were moderate in Chicago, prices ranging \$70 to \$80 bulk per ton, compared with \$85 to \$100 in Cincinnati and \$140 in Detroit. Shipments more than doubled, 1,040 cars moving as compared with 487 the previous week and 467 during the corresponding week last season.

Sweet Potatoes Slightly Higher.

Many of the large market centers were slightly supplied. New Jersey, Maryland, and Delaware yellow varieties were slightly lower in New York at \$3.50 to \$3.75 per bushel hamper and unchanged in Baltimore at \$2.25, but Tennessee Nancy Halls in middle western markets advanced 50 to 75 cents, ranging \$2.75 to \$3. The Detroit market became strong and active, with stock selling at a higher range of \$3.25 to \$4.50. Sweet potatoes are moving from producing sections at five times the rate of last season. Shipments were 217 cars compared with 79 the previous week and 23 cars during the corresponding week last season. New Jersey shipped 59, Tennessee 47, Delaware 25, and Georgia 21 cars.

Strawberry Markets Irregular.

Supplies were light and prices generally held firm. Demand was brisk at Louisiana shipping points, and Klondikes advanced slightly to a range of \$3.55 to \$3.75 per 24-pint ventilated crate f. o. b., after holding almost unchanged from last week at \$3 to \$3.50. Klondikes in 24-quart crates also closed higher at \$7.25 to \$7.50, with the week's range about \$6 to \$7.25. Boston and Philadelphia quoted Klondikes 30 to 45 cents per quart. Twenty-four-pint ventilated crates sold early in the week at \$4.75 to \$5 in Cleveland, later reaching \$3.50 to \$4.50. The same stock in Pittsburgh sold at \$4 to \$5, and in middlewestern markets prices ranged \$4.25 to \$5 per crate. Florida Klondikes ranged 25 cents to 65 cents per quart in Philadelphia, closing at 20 to 50 cents. New York was lower at 30 to 40 cents, closing 25 to 30 cents per quart. Shipments were 319 cars, compared with 234 the previous week and 224 a year ago.

Other Fruits and Vegetables.

Tomatoes were in good demand at Miami, Fla., shipping points, Globes fancy sizes

PRICES TO JOBBERS OF CERTAIN FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

POTATOES, No. 1, White. (Sacked, per 100 pounds.)

Market.	Week ending—		One year ago.
	Apr. 26, 1920.	Apr. 19, 1920.	
New York....	¹ \$7.80-\$8.05	\$8.50-\$9.10	\$2.90-\$3.15
Baltimore....	7.40	9.10	2.75-2.85
Boston.....	6.50-6.65	6.50-6.75	3.00-3.25
Chicago.....	² 7.00-7.25	² 7.60-7.75	² 2.25
Kansas City..	7.25-7.75	7.25-7.50	.....
St. Louis....	7.25-7.40	8.00	2.00-2.25
Minnesota... ³	7.10-7.40	7.35-7.50	.....

SWEET POTATOES, Yellows, New Jersey. (Bushel hampers.)

New York....	\$3.00-\$3.50	\$4.00-\$4.50	.....
Baltimore....	4.25	4.25	.....
Chicago.....	⁵ 2.75-3.00	⁵ 2.75-3.00	.....
Kansas City..	⁵ 3.50-4.00	⁵ 2.25	.....

APPLES, Middlewestern Ben Davis No. 1. (Barrels.)

Baltimore....	⁶ \$8.00-\$8.25	⁶ \$7.00-\$7.50	.....
Chicago.....	7.50-8.00	7.50-8.00	.....
Kansas City..	7.50-8.00	7.50-8.00	.....
St. Louis....	8.50-8.75	.....	.....

APPLES, Northwestern Winesaps, Extra Fancy. (Boxes.)

New York....	\$4.75-\$5.25	\$4.50-\$5.00	.....
Boston.....	4.50-5.00	4.00	.....
Chicago.....	3.50-3.75	3.50-3.75	.....
Kansas City..	3.75-4.00	4.00-4.50	.....

ONIONS, No. 1 Yellow. (Sacked per 100 pounds.)

New York....	\$7.00-\$7.50	.....	\$4.50-\$5.00
Baltimore....	9.00	\$8.50-\$9.00	5.50-6.00
Boston.....	7.00-7.25	7.00-7.50	4.50-5.00
Chicago.....	⁷ 4.75-5.25	⁷ 4.25-4.50	⁷ 3.50-3.75
Kansas City..	⁷ 5.00-5.50	⁷ 5.50-5.75	⁷ 4.00-4.25
St. Louis....	4.50	.....	⁷ 3.75
West New York.....	⁷ 2.15-2.25	⁷ 3.00-3.10	⁷ 2.50

STRAWBERRIES, Louisiana Klondikes. (24-pint crates.)

New York....	⁸ 25-30c.	⁸ 40-50c.	⁸ 40-45c.
Baltimore....	^{9,10} 45-60c.	.....	.....
Boston.....	⁹ 35-40c.	⁹ 35-40c.	⁹ 38-42c.
Chicago.....	\$4.25-\$4.50	\$4.00-\$4.25	\$3.75-\$4.00
Kansas City..	4.25-4.50	4.00-4.25	4.50
St. Louis....	4.50-4.75	4.00-4.50	4.25
West New York.....	3.75	3.50	3.10

¹ Bulk per 100 pounds.

² Car-lot sales.

³ F. o. b. shipping point.

⁴ Maryland and Virginia Yellow.

⁵ Tennessee Nancy Halls.

⁶ Southeastern Ben Davis.

⁷ Texas Yellow Bermudas, standard crates.

⁸ Florida Klondikes, per quart.

⁹ Per quart.

¹⁰ Sales to retailers.

selling mostly \$5 to \$5.25 for 6-basket carriers, with sales early in the week at \$4.50 to \$5. Consuming markets were also higher, prices advancing about \$1 in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Cincinnati, to a range of \$4.25 to \$6, and in New York to \$6.50 to \$7.25. Ninety-two cars were shipped compared with 48 the previous week and 209 during the corresponding week last season.

Celery shipments were 212 cars compared with 38 cars last week and 117 during the corresponding week last season. Lettuce shipments shows a large increase, 266 cars compared with 46 last week and 314 during the corresponding week last season. One hundred and sixty-eight cars of mixed vegetables were shipped compared with 95 cars last week and 173 cars during the corresponding week last season. Citrus fruits showed large increases. Grapefruit filled 168 cars compared with 82 last week and 68 cars the corresponding week last season; lemons, 138 cars, compared with 9 last week and 266 during the corresponding week last year; oranges, 922 cars, compared with 256 the previous week and 1,170 cars during the corresponding week last season.

CAR-LOT SHIPMENTS OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

Week Ending Apr. 24.

Commodity.	Week ending Apr. 24.	Same week last season.	This season to date.	Last season to same date.	Total last season.
Apples:					
Boxed States.....	218	60	40,920	25,436	25,581
Barreled States....	234	173	38,860	43,521	44,049
Cabbage:					
Old.....	1	1	23,319	29,358	29,361
New.....	1,040	467	8,917	4,168	6,678
Celery:					
Old.....	5	1	6,778	6,381	6,385
New.....	215	117	2,548	1,429	2,051
Dry beans.....	63	160	4,965	4,992	7,538
Grapefruit.....	163	68	8,347	6,180	6,462
Lemons.....	138	266	3,782	5,140	9,532
Lettuce.....	266	311	7,000	4,039	7,250
Mixed and bunched vegetables.....	168	173	4,031	3,058	8,145
Onions:					
Old.....	44	63	20,304	22,492	22,550
New.....	659	340	908	452	8,275
Oranges.....	922	1,170	31,694	33,402	50,654
Strawberries.....	319	224	706	675	8,084
Sweet potatoes.....	217	23	14,697	10,507	10,540
Tomatoes.....	92	209	2,304	1,929	14,446
White potatoes:					
New.....	15	345	22	498	3,083
Old.....	1,596	2,579	154,993	162,836	176,540
Total.....	6,377	6,753	375,095	366,493	447,157

STRAWBERRY NEWS SERVICE.

Temporary field stations will be opened by the United States Bureau of Markets at Judsonia, Ark., and at Humboldt and Dayton, Tenn., about May 3, for the duration of the strawberry shipping seasons in those sections.

These stations will collect and distribute information relative to f. o. b. prices and market conditions, quality and condition of the stock moving to market, and any other data pertaining to the marketing of the strawberry crop. They will distribute general market information also, giving the car-lot receipts, stock on hand, market prices, and conditions of strawberries in the principal consuming and distributing markets of the United States.

Local growers and others interested in the marketing of Tennessee strawberries may secure such information or assistance as may be available by applying direct to the branch offices of the Bureau of Markets, Dayton or Humboldt, Tenn.; application for information or assistance in the marketing of Arkansas strawberries should be made direct to the branch office of the Bureau of Markets at Judsonia, Ark.

MAPLE SWEETS IN CANADA.

The output of maple sugar and sirup in Quebec Province has shown considerable gain in recent years, according to a recent report from Consul G. C. Woodward. The production of sugar in the Province of Quebec in 1919 was 12,353,667 pounds, and the production of sirup, 1,470,275 gallons, with a combined value of \$6,396,535, as compared with the 1911 output of 9,987,443 pounds of sugar and 1,005,330 gallons of sirup at an estimated value of \$1,680,393, an increase of \$4,716,142. Maple sugar some 10 years ago sold at 7 to 8 cents per pound, but reached an average price in 1918 of 15 cents per pound, while in 1919, sugar sold at 25 to 30 cents per pound and sirup at \$2 to \$2.50 per gallon. Much of the product goes to the United States and is used to a considerable extent in the manufacture of high-grade chocolate.

BEAN HOLDINGS DECREASE.

The California bean situation is slightly better, according to a San Francisco representative of the United States Bureau of Markets. As a result of the scarcity and high prices of potatoes, consumers are taking advantage of the low price of beans and are using them as a substitute. Beans are served in place of potatoes in practically all the restaurants and cafés and those who insist on potatoes are charged an extra price.

On oriental imports, car-lot prices per 100 pounds f. o. b. Pacific coast shipping points, April 20, were as follows:

Pinks.....	\$6.40-6.50	Cranberries....	\$6.45-6.50
Small Whites. 5.75-5.85		Red Mexicans....	8.85-8.90
Large Whites. 6.25-6.35		Black Eyes....	7.45-7.50
Limas.....	10.70-10.75	Teparys.....	2.00-2.10
Bayos.....	10.15-10.30	Kotenashis....	4.50-4.60

The bean holdings as secured from the various dealers in San Francisco are as follows:

	Sacks.		Sacks.
Pinks.....	495,780	Chick-peas.....	2,637
Small Whites.....	695,050	Black Eyes.....	29,311
Large Whites.....	299,207	Red Kidneys....	3,329
Limas.....	155,499	Teparys.....	6,225
Bayos.....	7,462	Kotenashis....	958
Cranberries.....	104,860	Miscellaneous....	9,370
Red Mexicans....	13,663		
Total.....	1,824,601		

The foregoing shows a reduction of 398,379 sacks April 1 as compared with 2,222,900 sacks February 15, 1919.

These figures are secured from all commercial and railroad warehouses throughout California, with the exception of the San Fernando Valley in Southern California, where the holdings are mainly limas.

Imports Liberal.

California bean shippers are reported as meeting with considerable competition from oriental imports. There were 4,792,456 bushels of beans and lentels, valued at \$17,526,911, imported into the United States during the calendar year 1919, of which Japan furnished the greater portion. The countries of origin were as follows:

Countries.	Bushels.	Value.
France.....	60,410	\$337,830
Italy.....	1,469	3,400
England.....	80,354	476,162
Other Europe.....	336	1,033
Canada.....	350,352	1,259,986
Panama.....	5,412	26,025
Mexico.....	3,047	10,067
Cuba.....	64,644	293,017
Argentina.....	30,006	116,724
Brazil.....	45,629	150,553
Chile.....	614,260	2,673,920
Japan.....	3,625,965	11,858,293
Other Asia.....	52,932	139,908
British South Africa.....	26,316	135,097
Madagascar.....	5,615	19,454
All others.....	5,709	25,442
Total.....	4,972,456	17,526,911

MAPLE SUGAR AND SIRUP.

With only light supplies of last season's stock in New York City April 19 to 24, and with practically no fresh stock on hand, demand was very light for sugar, with prices on Vermont, Canada, and Pennsylvania stock ranging from 32-35 cents, mostly around 33 cents per pound.

Vermont and Pennsylvania second-run sirup ranged from \$2.25 to \$2.60 a gallon, and a little of this season's New York and Vermont stock sold around \$2.75 a gallon.

The strikes and embargoes tend to curtail supplies, but they have been sufficient to take care of the very light demand at the present comparatively high prices.

EARLY TOMATOES ACTIVE.

(Continued from front page.)

the last week in March many of the arrivals were overripe because of the weather and as a result of conditions at shipping point. Also fruit of different stages of maturity was being shipped. The warm weather ripened the stock rapidly and the picking and shipping could not be done as promptly as desirable.

Prices in northern consuming markets have ranged somewhat lower this season, partly because of the variable condition of the stock as described and partly because shipments have been about one-third larger than last season. Jobbing prices ranged \$3 to \$4.50 for 6-basket carriers in March and \$3 to \$7 in April, with many tops reaching \$8 toward the end of the month, compared with a general range of \$3.50 to \$5.50 in April last year.

Prices in Recent Seasons.

However, the general tendency of prices in recent years has been upward. Thus, in 1915 prices for Florida sixes in June and July ranged as low as 75 cents to \$2. In 1916 the jobbing range was \$1.50 to \$2.75 in April, \$1.75 to \$4 in May, \$2.75 to \$4 in June. In 1917 the April range was \$3 to \$4.50, but decreased in May, reaching \$1.75 to \$3.75 and in June \$1.50 to \$3.75, although strengthening in July to a range of \$2.50 to \$4. In 1919, the general range in March was \$3.50 to \$6.50, and in April \$3.50 to \$5.50. Quotations in May ranged \$3 to \$6 and in June \$2.50 to \$6.50.

No quotations on Texas tomatoes have been received from consuming markets this season. Last year the range per 4-basket carrier in leading middle-western markets was \$1.75 to \$2.75. In June prices weakened to a range of \$1.25 to \$2.75 and declined in July, reaching \$1 to \$2. In 1918 Texas fours ranged \$1 to \$2.25 in June and \$1 to \$1.25 in July. In 1917 the range in June was 75 cents to \$1.75 and in July \$1 to \$1.90. In 1916, jobbing prices in May ranged \$1.40 to \$1.75 and in June 75 cents to \$1.75, but declined in July 50 cents to \$1. In 1915 the range in June and July was 40 cents to \$1.25.

Mississippi tomatoes in 4-basket carriers last year ranged \$1 to \$2 in leading northern markets and \$1.25 to \$2 in July. In 1918 the June range was \$1 to \$2.50 and the July quotations \$1 to \$1.25. In 1917 the range in June was 75 cents to \$1.65 and in July 50 cents to \$2. In 1916 Mississippi fours ranged 75 cents to \$1.75 in June and 75 cents to \$1 in July.

Tennessee tomatoes in July last year ranged \$1.50 to \$2.25 for 4-basket carriers in northern markets, compared with 50 cents to \$1.50 in 1918, with 75 cents to \$1.85 in 1917, and with 50 cents to \$1.50 in 1916.

New Jersey tomatoes in 20-quart baskets sold in July last year in consuming markets at \$1 to \$2.25, compared with 75 cents to \$2.50 in 1918, and with the same range of 75 cents to \$2.50 in 1917, while in 1916 the range was 50 cents to \$2.50 and in July, 1915, it was \$1 to \$1.85.

Carload Supply of Leading Markets.

Shipments of tomatoes from the six leading extra early shipping States include a yearly average of 6,500 cars unloaded in 15 leading market centers. The total for 1916 was 7,818, but the car-lot figures reported for that year apparently included some shipments at diversion points. During the past three years the 15 cities have received not far from three-fifths of all car-lot shipments from these States.

From one-third to one-half of the shipments went to New York, which takes about

one-third of all the Florida tomatoes shipped, nearly one-fifth of the Mississippi shipments, and most of the New Jersey car lots, but receives only a small portion of the shipments from California, Tennessee, and Texas. Kansas City shows fairly uniform figures, usually taking about 25 cars of California tomatoes yearly. Philadelphia last year received twice as many cars as in the three preceding seasons combined. Denver of late years has shown a tendency to take increasing supplies from California and less from Florida. The Tennessee tomatoes unloaded at Denver comprised 20 cars last year, compared with an average of 25 cars for each of the three years previous. Omaha received its early supplies chiefly from Texas the last two seasons.

During the early part of the season nearly all markets receive shipments of Florida tomatoes, as this State has the only large supply available in winter. Chicago unloaded about one-fourth as many Florida tomatoes as did New York and took half as many cars from Florida as from the five other States combined. Shipments to Chicago from Florida, California, and Mississippi have held at fairly steady volume in

recent years, but have tended to decrease from Tennessee and Texas. Texas has shipped an increasing proportion of its crop to New York and other leading cities. Tennessee shipments to all cities were very light last season, the crop going chiefly to Chicago, Detroit, Denver, Minneapolis, and other western cities, although Pittsburgh sections took 62 cars. California shipments show wider distribution than most of the other States. Last year over one-half of the went to New York, but usually more California tomatoes have been unloaded at Chicago than at any other market.

Mexican Tomatoes.

Last year 477 cars of tomatoes were reported received from Mexico. The Mexican crop is usually shipped in lug boxes containing slightly over half a bushel. The movement of Mexican tomatoes has been hampered greatly by transportation difficulties. According to consular dispatches, received near the middle of April, the principal railroad which transports Mexican tomatoes was not receiving nor delivering freight to its Mexican division. The Mexican division declined to haul freight cars to cross into the United States unless empty or loaded cars were returned in exchange. Accordingly one of the large concerns shipping tomatoes from Mexico has been making shipments by steamer. The trip is scheduled to take five days. Only a part of the tomatoes can be refrigerated; hence condition of the stock on arrival is variable. Shipments this season from the Mexican State of Sinaloa have exceeded those of last year.

Mexican stock in poor condition sold as low as 50 cents to \$1 per lug box in New York City in the middle of March. Best repacked stock reached a top of \$5 per lug box in Chicago the third week in March, but stock not repacked was commonly quoted at much lower figures ranging through April from 75 cents to \$4 with a prevailing range of \$2 to \$3. Sales in Pittsburgh ranged \$3 to \$3.50 late in March and \$2 to \$3 throughout April.

INSPECTION SERVICE ACTIVE.

March inspections of shipments of fruits and vegetables were 2,333, as compared with 936 in March, 1919. The Pittsburgh office led with 416, closely followed by Chicago with 404. About one-fourth of the total inspections were made at the request of the railroad companies, and the others were chiefly for shippers or receivers. Inspections for the first nine months of the fiscal year July to March, inclusive, were 18,825, as compared with 10,607 for the corresponding period of the preceding fiscal year.

Indications are that the demand on the inspection force will be very heavy this summer, and it may be found advisable to withdraw some of the inspectors from the smaller and less important markets and to station them in the larger eastern and middle-western cities, where the demand for the inspection service is greatest. The Denver office has recently been closed, while the service is again available in Los Angeles.

The inspectors have been working in cooperation with the transit and storage investigators during the past few weeks, to collect data on the comparative deterioration in Florida citrus shipments when loaded two or three layers high. It is hoped that the present series of test shipments will afford information sufficiently exact and comprehensive to warrant definite recommendations for the most desirable size of carload for these products.

Early Tomatoes: Acreage, Production, and Carlot Movement of Table or Shipping Stock.

ACRES HARVESTED.

	Calif.	Fla.	Miss.	N.J.	Tenn.	Tex.	Total.
1920.....	22,600	4,600	4,950	3,000	8,850	31,450	
1919.....	2,200	20,900	4,600	4,950	3,000	5,909	41,550
1918.....	2,200	15,600	4,700	4,650	3,000	4,000	34,150
1917.....	2,319	25,830	7,130	11,230	1,000	5,480	52,989
1916.....	2,146	27,340	5,050	6,580	6,660	7,290	55,066
1915.....	2,131	26,100	4,930	5,880	5,850	4,900	49,761
1910.....	5,932	12,338	3,631	26,552	5,833	6,035	60,319

PRODUCTION (TONS).

1920.....	69,609	18,400	12,870	6,060	17,700	130,870
1919.....	17,380	58,520	15,400	12,870	6,060	17,700
1918.....	11,880	46,800	21,150	33,450	10,500	16,000
1917.....	17,390	77,480	15,680	48,320	3,020	16,430
1916.....	20,170	101,170	25,250	42,130	29,320	10,770
1915.....	18,750	91,390	20,100	30,550	24,010	11,260

SHIPMENTS.

(Car lots of about 400 bushels, or 10-12 tons.)

1920.....	2,273	1,380	1,012	368	1,190	10,604
1919.....	2,186	4,468	1,379	2,006	654	1,123
1918.....	1,514	3,700	1,379	2,006	654	1,123
1917.....	518	4,493	1,063	2,239	947	1,276
1916.....	1,169	6,181	1,663	3,122	796	1,153

To Apr. 10.

Cars of Tomato Unloads in Fifteen Large Markets, from Six Leading Early Shipping States.

	Calif.	Fla.	Miss.	N. J.	Tenn.	Tex.	Total.
Boston:							
1919.....	9	195	55	75	3	5	342
1918.....		219	24	138	1	4	386
1916.....	7	284	117	159	1	2	570
Buffalo:							
1917.....		44	14	16	26	24	124
1916.....		84	10	31	27	5	157
Chicago:							
1919.....	102	387	76		120	113	798
1918.....	42	238	22		141	171	614
1917.....	64	385	26		229	197	901
1916.....	171	547	24	1	218	187	1,148
Cincinnati:							
1919.....	4	126	12		1		143
1918.....		98	29		32	31	190
1917.....	1	147	8		60	73	289
1916.....	1	268	31		107	30	437
Denver:							
1919.....	24	5	4		20	16	69
1918.....	12	8	2		8	17	47
1917.....	9	16			6	28	59
1916.....	47	16			1	25	89
Detroit:							
1919.....	10	73	55		19	7	164
1918.....		63	27		50	11	151
1917.....	2	81					83
Kansas City:							
1919.....	25	36				135	196
1918.....	25	60	4		6	71	166
1917.....	14	93			38	107	252
1916.....	35	135	13			107	290
Minneapolis:							
1919.....	5	19	6		14	2	46
1918.....	7	13		8	19	10	57
1917.....	12	2			3	5	22
1916.....	13	55	12			36	116
New York:							
1919.....	215	1,486	230	789	1	59	2,780
1918.....	27	1,030	231	1,821	3	3	3,115
1917.....	48	1,232	278	1,559	17	14	3,148
1916.....	16	1,214	331	1,138		5	2,704
Omaha:							
1919.....	1	4			3	28	36
1918.....	6	7			12	21	46
1917.....		11			6	8	25
Philadelphia:							
1919.....	41	682	196			15	934
1918.....	1	568	122	1	1	5	698
1917.....	5	524	149	1		15	694
1916.....	13	439	194	157	3	14	820
Pittsburgh:							
1919.....	1	337	126	11	62	116	653
1918.....	6	381	150	50	129	91	807
1917.....	6	352	100	9	144	113	724
1916.....	21	552	187	38	140	41	979
St. Louis:							
1919.....		44			1	120	165
1917.....	4	68	5		8	133	218
1916.....	15	148	6			170	339
St. Paul:							
1919.....	4		10		5	4	23
1918.....	11	11	3		6	12	33
1917.....	1	1			1	7	10
1916.....	3	19	6		2	5	35
Washington:							
1919.....	2	128	20			6	156
1918.....		83	17		5		105
1916.....		115	19				134
Totals:							
1919.....	443	3,522	790	875	249	626	6,505
1918.....		127,279	631	2,018	413	447	6,415
1917.....		166,296	580	1,585	538	724	6,549
1916.....		342,376	950	1,524	499	627	7,818

Jobbing Prices of Early Tomatoes.

	April.	May.	June.	July.
Florida sixes:				
1920.....	\$2.25-6.50			
1919.....	3.50-5.50	\$4.00-6.50	\$2.50-4.50	
1918.....	3.50-4.00	3.00-6.00	2.50-6.50	
1917.....	3.00-6.50	1.75-3.75	1.50-3.75	\$2.50-4.00
1916.....	1.50-2.75	1.75-4.00	2.75-4.00	
1915.....			.75-2.00	.75-1.50
Texas fours:				
1919.....		1.75-2.75	1.25-2.75	1.00-2.00
1918.....			1.00-2.25	1.00-1.25
1917.....			.75-1.75	1.00-1.90
1916.....		1.40-1.75	.75-1.75	.50-1.00
1915.....			.45-1.25	.40-.60
Mississippi fours:				
1919.....			1.00-2.00	1.25-2.00
1918.....			1.00-2.50	1.00-1.25
1917.....			.75-1.65	.50-2.00
1916.....			.75-1.25	.75-1.00
1915.....			.40-1.25	.40-.75
Tennessee fours:				
1919.....				1.50-2.25
1918.....				.50-1.35
1917.....			1.00-1.50	.75-1.85
1916.....				.50-1.50
New Jersey 20-quart baskets:				
1919.....				1.00-2.25
1918.....				.75-2.50
1917.....				.75-2.50
1916.....				.50-2.50
1915.....				1.00-1.85

Prices of Early Tomatoes f. o. b. Shipping Points.

	April.	May.	June.	July.
Florida sixes:				
1920.....	\$2.75-5.25			
1919.....	3.50-4.50	\$3.50-4.75		
1918.....	2.50-3.00	2.75-4.10		
1917.....	2.50-3.75	1.30-2.50	\$0.90-1.65	
Texas fours:				
1919.....			.75-1.75	
1918.....			.60-1.60	
1917.....			.75-1.50	\$0.60-1.10
1916.....			.60-1.65	.35-.45
1915.....			.30-.80	.20-.30
Mississippi fours:				
1919.....			1.00-1.75	
1918.....			.80-1.40	.60
1917.....			.70-1.35	
1916.....			.50-1.00	
1915.....			.45-.90	.30-.35
Tennessee fours:				
1919.....			1.50-1.60	.70-1.75
1918.....			.80-1.10	.55-1.00
1917.....			1.25-1.45	.90-1.30
1916.....				.30-.60

SEEDS

DEMAND FOR SEED OF LATE-SOWN CROPS IMPROVES.

Trading in Clovers Practically Over.

With the sowing season for red and alsike clover closing, dealers turned their attention to the increasing demand for the late-sown forage crop seeds during the week ending April 24, and prices for this class of seeds remained firm. Transportation conditions have improved considerably but embargoes and delays still exist.

Clovers.—Red and alsike clover prices declined \$1 to \$3 per 100 pounds in the eastern markets and \$6 to \$8 at Salt Lake City, while Toledo closed \$2.50 per 100 pounds higher for red and \$1.65 per 100 pounds higher for alsike than the week before. Other markets remained unchanged. The volume of business transacted in clovers was made up of small orders and would not total any appreciable amount.

Sweet clover declined about \$1 per 100 pounds at Chicago, because larger stocks are continually showing up while the demand is only fair, except possibly in the Northwest from which section the demand has been very good.

Alfalfa.—Heavy arrivals of alfalfa seed at New York are reported for the week and stocks of imported seed at a few of the larger markets are reported larger. The demand for this seed has not fully developed in some sections and trading in most cities continues light. Prices are unchanged to slightly lower.

Grasses.—Chicago seedsmen report the demand for timothy better than for the past several weeks, while trading at other markets continues light with very little change in prices. Redtop and orchard grass prices are

RETAIL PRICES OF FIELD SEEDS OF HIGH QUALITY, APR. 20.

[Dollars per 100 pounds, except seed grains, which are per bushel.]

Kind of seed.	N. and Atlantic Div.	Southeastern Division.	East Central Division.	North Central Division.	West Central Division.	North Pacific Division.
Clovers:						
Red clover.....	62.60	62.35	59.35	59.95	58.75	61.50
Alsike clover.....	62.95	61.00	60.25	61.35	57.50	62.30
Crimson clover.....	18.00	15.30	17.10			
Sweet clover.....	39.00	41.25	39.40	38.10	38.45	39.50
Lespedeza.....	36.50	33.35				
Alfalfa.....	48.70	43.50	46.10	48.05	42.25	46.25
Grasses:						
Timothy.....	16.70	15.00	15.50	15.35	15.00	18.50
Redtop.....	25.60	23.00	24.70	26.05	21.50	26.45
Kentucky bluegrass.....	35.40	30.00	33.65	35.00	36.25	36.45
Orchard grass.....	35.05	29.90	28.10	32.05	31.00	30.00
Millets:						
Golden millet.....	7.90	9.05	7.10	6.35	5.50	8.05
Common millet.....	7.25	8.00	5.85	5.30	4.15	7.85
Siberian millet.....			4.75	5.70	4.30	7.80
Sorgos ("cane"):						
Amber sorgo.....	6.60	5.75	5.50	5.65	4.15	6.50
Orange sorgo.....	5.75	5.65	5.30	5.50	4.30	
Kafir:						
Rape.....	16.90	16.75	15.70	15.10	14.85	13.65
Vetches:						
Hairy vetch.....	34.50	39.00	31.80			31.00
Common vetch.....	14.30					10.40
Peas:						
Canada field peas.....	7.30		7.70	7.60		7.30
Cowpeas.....	9.85	9.65	14.60	11.05	12.85	
Beans:						
Soy beans.....	10.15	9.80	12.05	14.40	12.15	
White field beans.....			10.25	10.85	10.00	9.40
Velvet beans.....	7.20	6.45				
Cotton seed:						
Seed potatoes.....	10.00	10.10				
Seed grains:						
Seed corn.....	3.95	4.05	3.50	4.45	3.65	4.80
Seed wheat.....	4.65	4.00	2.90	3.50	2.75	3.00
Seed oats.....	1.55	1.30	1.20	1.25	1.05	1.25
Seed barley.....	3.00		2.05	2.10	1.60	2.35
Seed rye.....	3.40	3.50	2.25	2.20	1.75	2.60
Seed buckwheat.....	2.90	2.50	2.20	2.60	2.80	3.10

WHOLESALE PRICES OF FIELD SEEDS, APR. 24.

Prices given are for high qualities of seed offered by seedsmen. Obviously it is impossible to give prices that represent the same quality and origin of seed in each of the cities.

[In dollars per 100 pounds, except seed grains which are per bushel.]

Kind of seed.	New York.	Baltimore.	Richmond.	Buffalo.	Toledo.	Louisville.	Chicago.	Minneapolis.	St. Louis.	Kansas City.	Denver.	Salt Lake City.	Seattle.	Avg. for U. S. same date last year.
Clovers:														
Red clover.....	52.00	50.00	54.50	51.00	47.50	53.00	47.00	48.00	50.00	53.00		50.00	58.00	47.00
Alsike clover.....	55.00	51.00	56.50	55.00	50.00	55.00	50.00	53.00	52.00	57.00	58.00	54.00	60.00	40.50
White clover.....	60.00	60.00	62.00	60.00		60.00	55.00	65.00	60.00	63.00	62.00	65.00	68.00	48.00
Crimson clover.....	11.00	10.50	12.00	14.00		13.00	12.50		14.00					18.00
Sweet clover.....	31.00	31.50	35.00	34.00		32.00	26.00	29.00	35.00	33.00	34.00	30.00	40.00	25.00
Bur clover (hulled).....		28.00												15.00
Lespedeza.....					40.00									27.00
Alfalfa.....	34.00	33.00	41.00	41.50	44.00	41.00	40.00	40.50	40.00	38.00	37.00	41.00	40.00	24.50
Grasses:														
Timothy.....	13.50	12.75	13.75	12.50	12.20	13.00	12.25	12.00	12.50	12.50	12.75	14.00	18.00	11.65
Redtop.....	17.50	17.50	19.00	19.00	19.00	18.00	15.50	20.00	19.00	19.00	20.00	20.00	25.00	15.00
Kentucky bluegrass.....	27.00	28.00	29.00	28.00	31.00	27.00	27.00	29.00	30.00	30.00	29.00	30.00	35.00	24.75
Orchard grass.....	22.50	22.50	23.00	25.00	26.00	21.00	21.50	25.00	25.00	24.00	27.00	28.00	30.00	28.50
Meadow fescue.....							35.00				35.00	37.00		24.50
Bromus inermis.....	30.00						30.00	27.50		30.00	28.00			23.50
Millets:														
Golden millet.....	6.50	5.50	6.50	5.50	6.00	7.00	5.25	5.50	5.25	5.25	5.00	6.50	7.50	5.50
Common millet.....	5.60	3.50	5.50				3.50	4.00	4.00	3.50	3.25		5.00	4.50
Siberian millet.....							3.50	3.75	3.50	3.50	3.50	5.00		5.25
Hungarian millet.....		7.00			9.00		7.50	7.50						6.25
Japanese millet.....	16.00			15.00			12.00	12.50	12.50					5.25
Broom-corn millet.....							3.75	3.75	4.00	3.50				3.85
Sorgos (cane):														
Amber sorgo.....		3.65	4.00			3.75	2.75	3.25	2.75	2.65	2.65			4.25
Orange sorgo.....		3.65	4.10			3.75	3.00		3.00	2.90				4.25
Sumac sorgo.....						3.75				2.90				5.00
Grain sorghums:														
Kafir.....			4.40						3.00	3.00				4.00
Milo.....									3.00	3.00				3.75
Feterita.....									3.50	3.25				4.25
Sudan grass.....			13.50	12.00		12.50	11.75	13.50	12.50	12.50	12.75	12.50	18.00	14.50
Rape.....	10.50	11.00	11.50	11.00	11.50	11.50	11.00	11.50	12.50	11.50		12.00	10.00	9.50
Vetches:														
Hairy vetch.....	27.00	27.00	30.00	30.00	30.00		35.00	29.00				30.00	19.00	
Common vetch.....	8.75	9.00	9.50	11.00	12.00		11.00	10.00				11.00	7.75	
Peas:														
Canada field peas.....	6.00	6.00	6.50	5.80	6.25		5.25	6.00	5.50			6.50	5.25	
Cowpeas.....		9.00	10.00			10.00	10.50	12.00	11.00	10.50				7.00
Beans:														
Soy beans (southern).....		8.00	8.35		9.50	8.75	9.00		10.00	9.00				5.00
White field beans.....		8.00					8.35							7.00
Velvet beans.....			5.60											6.25
Cotton seed:			8.85											7.25
Seed potatoes:			8.00	8.00	7.50					8.25	10.00		9.00	3.15
Seed grains:														
Seed corn.....	2.75	3.00	2.50	3.00	3.50	3.00	3.50	2.50	3.00	3.35		4.50	2.75	
Seed wheat.....	3.50		3.85				3.65	3.50			3.00		4.20	2.85
Seed oats.....	1.50	1.30	1.40			1.30	1.25	1.35	1.35		1.50		1.50	.95
Seed barley.....		2.20	2.10				1.95	2.10	2.00	1.80	2.65		2.15	1.50
Seed rye.....			2.85				2.50	2.40	2.50		2.50		2.25	2.00
Seed buckwheat.....	1.80	1.50	2.50				2.10	2.00	2.35					1.85

easier because of the lack of a demand, while Kentucky bluegrass prices remain unchanged at most markets.

Millets and Sorgos.—The demand for millets, sorgos ("cane"), and Sudan grass has been rather heavy recently. Kansas City reports a good ear-lot business in these commodities from the North and East. Prices are firm and stocks at most of the larger markets are ample to meet normal requirements with the possible exception of golden millet. Sales of sorgos from the producing sections to St. Louis dealers are reported fairly large.

SOY BEANS AND COWPEAS.

Short Supply Results in High Prices Which Affect Demand.

Soy Beans.—Reports received from shippers and dealers in and adjacent to the soy-bean producing areas indicate that the present demand is less than at a corresponding time last year and also less active than it was 60 days ago. There was a tendency on the part of seedmen to purchase at least a part of their trade requirements for 1920 early in the season, which caused prices to advance rapidly. As a result of the higher prices the demand became less active, dealers considering it too great a risk to stock up heavily until the demand from farmers developed.

Prices are easier than 30 days ago, but some dealers think that when the active planting season begins there will be a very heavy demand, followed by another period of higher prices. The average wholesale price for southern-grown soy beans April 24, 1920, as quoted by seedsmen in the principal markets, was \$8.75 per 100 pounds, which is about 75 per cent higher than on the same date last year.

The short acreage of wheat, the high price and late sowing season for clover seed and the high price of hay are some of the factors which dealers think will result in an increased acreage of all forage crops, including soy beans, and which will cause a heavy late demand for soy beans.

The heaviest demand for soy beans, especially for the early varieties, seems to be in the corn belt, where this crop continues to increase in popularity. Stocks of the early varieties, however, are very limited, some dealers having sold out entirely, and further supplies are not available. Dealers are practically unanimous in the opinion that stocks of Mammoth Yellows on hand are much smaller than those of last year or a normal year at this time, ranging from 25 per cent less in some cases to 70 per cent in others.

Cowpeas.—The active buying and heavy movement of cowpeas early in the season, resulting in the price of this commodity

(Continued on page 287.)

GRAIN, HAY, AND FEED

HAY MARKET.

Demand Continues Urgent and Receipts Light—Movement Slightly Improved.

Prices for the week ending April 24 as a whole have declined about \$2 from the high level reported last week, although a few markets, including those of the South and Southeast, have advanced slightly. Receipts have increased somewhat in the markets of the North and Central West, and prices in those markets have weakened from the recent record prices.

The receipts for the week of all kinds reported at the various markets were as follows:

	Cars.	Cars.
Poston.....	100	Cincinnati..... 250
New York.....	20	St. Louis..... 69
Baltimore.....	42	Kansas City..... 264
Atlanta.....	26	Chicago..... 187
New Orleans.....	41	

Timothy.—The market situation in the eastern markets, with possibly the exception of New York, is slightly improved over last week, and prices of timothy have declined from 50 cents to \$1 per ton. Receipts have not been large but the high prices have restricted the purchases to the immediate and urgent needs of the trade. The receipts at New York are still far below the demand, and the few cars available were sold at prices entirely out of line with other markets. Farmers and country shippers are reported willing to sell, but embargoes and scarcity of cars are preventing shipments.

The high-price level of timothy reported in the markets of the Central West last week is reflected in this week's higher prices in the Southern markets.

Prices at Cincinnati and Kansas City were practically unchanged but advanced about \$1 per ton at St. Louis because of the urgent demand and continued light receipts.

Chicago reports a decline of about \$3 from the high prices of the previous week. Receipts have increased but are still below normal. While there is still an urgent de-

WHOLESALE FEED PRICES AT MANUFACTURING CENTERS.

[Per ton, bagged, earload lots.]

	Apr. 24.	Mar. 27.
Spring wheat bran:		
Minneapolis.....	\$51.00	\$48.50
Duluth.....	51.00	48.00
Hard winter wheat bran:		
Kansas City.....	54.00	48.00
St. Louis.....	57.50	52.50
Soft winter wheat bran:		
Cincinnati.....	59.00	53.00
Baltimore.....	62.00	60.00
Richmond.....	63.00	55.00
Spring wheat middlings:		
Minneapolis.....	56.00	52.75
Duluth.....	55.00	53.00
Hard winter wheat middlings:		
Kansas City.....	54.00	
St. Louis.....	61.50	60.00
Soft winter wheat middlings:		
Cincinnati.....	65.00	60.00
Baltimore.....	62.00	60.00
Richmond.....	66.00	60.00
Cottonseed meal (36 per cent protein):		
Memphis.....	64.00	66.00
Atlanta.....	64.50	66.00
Linseed meal:		
Minneapolis.....	70.00	70.00
Milwaukee.....	72.00	72.00
Alfalfa meal:		
Memphis.....	44.00	43.00
Kansas City.....	40.00	38.50
St. Louis.....	42.75	39.00
Gluten feed:		
Chicago.....	69.00	69.00
Buffalo.....	72.19	72.25
Hominy feed:		
New York.....	73.00	67.50
Milwaukee.....	69.50	65.00

¹Nominal.

WHOLESALE PRICES OF HAY AND FEED AT DISTRIBUTING MARKETS, APR. 24.

[In dollars per ton.]

Commodity.	Boston. ¹	New York. ¹	Philadelphia. ¹	Baltimore. ¹	Richmond.	Atlanta.	New Orleans.	Memphis. ¹	Cincinnati. ¹	Chicago. ¹	St. Louis. ¹	Kansas City. ¹	Omaha. ¹	Denver.	Minneapolis. ¹
HAY (earload lots).															
Timothy and clove:															
No. 1 timothy.....	45.59	68.00	44.00	43.50	46.00	46.00	48.00	44.00	43.00	42.00	50.00	35.00			36.50
Standard timothy.....	41.00	67.00	42.00	43.00	45.50	45.00	47.00		42.50	40.00	47.50	33.00		38.00	
No. 2 timothy.....			41.00	42.50	45.00	44.00		42.00	42.00	39.00		32.00			35.00
No. 1 light clover, mixed.....	37.00	67.00	40.00	42.00	46.00	47.00			43.00	40.00	47.00	35.50			35.00
No. 1 clover, mixed.....	39.00	64.00		41.50	45.00	47.00			42.50	39.00	47.50	34.00			33.00
No. 1 clover.....	38.00	61.00			46.00	47.50			42.50	35.00	45.00				30.00
Alfalfa:															
No. 1 alfalfa.....						43.50	42.00	44.00	40.00	35.00	41.50	34.00	33.50	35.00	34.00
No. 2 alfalfa.....						37.00	38.00	39.00	35.00	31.00	37.00	24.50	32.00		29.00
Prairie:															
No. 1 upland.....								30.00		33.00	35.00	21.50	23.00	30.00	34.00
No. 1 midland.....							22.00			28.00		21.50	21.50	28.00	27.00
FEED (ton lots or more).															
Wheat bran:															
Spring.....	62.50	62.00	65.00	61.75	65.00	66.00			62.00	59.00				52.00	55.50
Soft winter.....	63.50	62.00		61.00	66.00	66.00		65.00	61.00		69.00	58.00			
Hard winter.....	62.50	62.00				66.00	60.00		61.00	59.00	60.00	57.00	55.50	52.00	
Wheat middlings:															
Spring.....	67.50	64.00	67.50	62.50	70.00	70.00			65.00	63.00		63.00			61.00
Soft winter.....	69.50			64.00	72.00	71.00		70.00	67.00		67.50	62.00			
Hard winter.....	68.50					71.00			66.00	63.00	67.50		62.50		
Rye middlings.....	66.50				68.00				64.00	62.00			57.50		
High protein meals:															
Linseed (per cent).....	70.50	67.00	79.00		90.00				68.00	72.00	75.00	78.00	79.50	85.00	75.00
Cottonseed (41 per cent).....	81.50				82.00		80.00				75.00	74.00			
Cottonseed (36 per cent).....	76.50	74.50	79.00		76.00	70.00	79.00		70.00	74.00				78.00	
No. 1 alfalfa meal (medium).....	52.50		53.00		58.00	53.00	48.00		47.00	47.00		43.00	46.00	40.00	
Gluten feed.....	79.37		78.00	77.50	80.00				73.50	75.00					
Hominy feed.....	71.50		68.00		75.00	74.00	69.00		69.00	70.00		68.00	68.00	80.00	
Ground barley.....									78.00	73.50			65.50		
Beet pulp.....					70.00	70.00									

¹ Hay quotations represent average of cash sales at these markets.

² Nominal.

mand, dealers are said to be buying only for immediate needs, expecting prices to decline further as the congestion in the railroad yards is cleared up and receipts increase.

Alfalfa.—The market situation of alfalfa has changed but little from the previous week. Prices are practically unchanged in the principal markets, including Kansas City, St. Louis, and Memphis, but are holding steady because of light receipts and the scarcity of other hay. Reports from Fort Worth and other southwestern points indicate a very light demand in that section because of the excellent pasturage.

New hay is being marketed in Arizona and southern California and is expected upon the San Francisco market within the next two or three weeks. The recent drought in California and in Montana has exhausted the supply in those States and has also exhausted practically the whole surplus of the adjoining States, including Nevada, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. The demand is still urgent in the northwest territory, but the strikes and embargoes are preventing the shipment at this time of such hay as is available.

The snows and cold weather prevailing in Colorado and the intermountain section during the past few days have created an urgent demand in that territory. Supplies are very light, and the loss of some stock is reported from lack of feed. Roads are blocked in some sections, which prevents the forwarding of supplies.

Prairie.—The demand for prairie is good at all markets because of the light receipts, and the level of prices has advanced slightly, but is still about \$9 below the price at the corresponding date last year, when the average price of No. 1 upland reached the highest point of the season at \$37 per ton.

Prices have advanced \$3 to \$4 per ton at Minneapolis because of the activity of the Canadian buyers, who are purchasing hay in the tributary territory for western

Canadian dealers and feeders. It is estimated that approximately 1,000 cars have already been shipped. As announced last week, the duty of \$2 per ton has been removed, and it is reported that the Canadian railroads are hauling hay free of charge during April. This condition is caused by the serious shortage of hay in Manitoba.

FEED MARKET.

Additional Strength Reported in Linseed and Alfalfa Meal—Prices of Wheat Feeds Make Further Advances.

The feed market situation for the week ending April 24 shows but little change from the previous week. The car shortage continues to restrict movement, which has caused a further advance in the price of wheat feeds, stocks of which are very light. Additional strength developed during the week for linseed and alfalfa meal.

Wheat Mill Feeds.—The extremely low stocks in the principal markets, together with light offerings for prompt shipments of bran and middlings, have caused a further advance of from \$1 to \$3 per ton in the prices of these feeds during the week. Minneapolis reports that the lifting of embargoes has caused increased activity in the mill-feed market, although the car situation is very bad, causing very slow delivery from the mills.

At Atlanta the local market for mill feeds was dull during the past week, and mills are reported as experiencing less difficulty in obtaining wheat. The hard winter wheat mills in Kansas and Oklahoma are beginning to offer split cars of bran and middlings more freely in that territory. Kansas City reports a slight improvement in the flour trade as well as the transportation situation, which points to a freer movement of feed in the near future.

While the offerings in the eastern markets are very light, the demand is also limited

and is confined only to immediate wants. Demand for futures ruled quiet as dealers are anxious to clean up their delayed contracts before buying again.

Gluten Feed.—Manufacturers report the transportation situation as somewhat better than last week; and while they are receiving a few cars now and then, the movement is not sufficient to enable them to resume operation. The few cars received are being loaded with reserve stock to supply partly the urgent demand of dealers whose contracts have been delayed. New business is noticeably lighter than for sometime back.

Cottonseed Meal.—The cottonseed meal market is practically unchanged from last week. It is reported that southeastern manufacturers have had representatives in the Chicago market during the last week, but it is said that very little business has resulted. However, the fertilizer demand for 36 per cent meal continues very satisfactory.

Texas mills report considerable strength in the demand from Mississippi and Louisiana; this demand is reported to be better than for some years back. The local market at Fort Worth is healthy but not urgent.

At Atlanta the demand is reported as unsatisfactory although prices remain firm from last week. Practically the only demand reported at Memphis is from fertilizer manufacturers.

Alfalfa Meal.—A continued good demand is reported for alfalfa meal, with prices firm. Reports from the Southeast indicate that on account of the shortage of bran this feed is being used as a substitute. The demand from St. Louis and Chicago is very good.

Memphis reports a better supply of molasses, which is increasing the consumption of alfalfa meal, as the demand for mixed sweet feeds continues excellent.

Offerings of new meal are now being made from New Mexico and California for middle of May delivery.

Linseed Meal.—The linseed meal market is reported as stronger than a week ago, with a slight advance in price. Considerable inquiry is reported at Minneapolis for this feed.

Eastern markets report that because of the export demand the linseed meal advanced during the week.

Control of Wheat to Continue in France.

The French Government has announced that Government control of wheat will continue for three years, producers being guaranteed an adequate price. Trading in wheat will be free, except that imports will be under Government control and domestic supplies may be requisitioned in case of need.

COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS OF FISH.

April 15, 1920.

The monthly report of the Bureau of Markets shows the following cold-storage holdings of fish for April 15, 1920. The quantities shown include an estimate of the holdings of the storages that did not report.

The holdings of frozen fish amounted to 20,569,824 pounds compared with 37,110,856 pounds on April 15, 1919, a decrease of 16,541,032 pounds, or 44.6 per cent.

The holdings of cured herring amounted to 15,037,979 pounds compared with 21,127,509 pounds on April 15, 1919, a decrease of 6,099,530 pounds, or 28.9 per cent.

The holdings of mild cured salmon amounted to 5,338,327 pounds compared with 3,798,164 pounds on April 15, 1919, an increase of 1,540,163 pounds, or 40.6 per cent.

SEED-CORN SITUATION.

Corn Slow to Dry Last Fall and Germination Only Fair in Some Sections.

During the past 37 years there have been only two years in which the production of merchantable corn was greater than that of 1919, according to figures published by the Bureau of Crop Estimates. The total production of corn in 1919 is estimated by that bureau to have been 2,917,450,000 bushels, of which 86.9 per cent was considered to be merchantable, or a total of 2,535,130,000 bushels. Of the 1918 crop, 2,062,041,000 bushels, or 82.4 per cent, and of the poor-quality crop of 1917 only 1,837,728,000 bushels, or 60 per cent, were estimated to be of merchantable quality.

Because of the good quality of the 1919 crop of corn, as shown by the above figures, it was commonly supposed in most sections that little or no difficulty would be experienced in obtaining seed corn of high germination. In some sections, cold rainy weather at husking time, followed by heavy freezes before the corn had an opportunity to dry out thoroughly, lowered the vitality of much of the corn, and in these sections a good demand is being noted by seed-corn growers and dealers.

Reports Vary Considerably.

In the responses to inquiries sent to more than 50 of the larger growers and dealers in important seed-corn producing sections, a considerable difference of opinion was recorded in the reports received relative to the supply, demand, and quality of seed corn, even in reports from adjacent areas. In general, the germination of the 1919 crop of seed corn planted this spring is not so good as that of the 1918 crop, which was probably somewhat above normal. Reports from Missouri and Kansas, however, seem to indicate the seed corn from last season's crop to be of as high test as that of the preceding year. Nebraska, Minnesota, South Dakota, and portions of Iowa report almost uniformly lower germination for the 1919 crop than for the 1918 crop.

Demand Late but Good.

The demand has been a little later than normal in many States because of the backwardness of the season. At the present time, the demand averages better than last year, especially for early varieties that may be expected to mature in the northern portion of the corn belt. Some ascribe the better demand to the fact that farmers, remembering the difficulty they had in obtaining satisfactory seed corn in the spring of 1918, were more inclined to save seed corn during the fall of that year than they were last fall because plenty of seed corn was available in the spring of 1919. Others ascribe the better demand to the substitution of corn where winter wheat was winter-killed or where the inclement weather retarded oat, barley, and other seeding. The lower germination of crib corn in some sections, as already pointed out, has greatly influenced the demand for seed corn in those sections.

Stocks About Same as Last Year.

Although a number of correspondents indicated that their stocks near the end of April were somewhat larger than at a corresponding time last year, more seemed to be holding somewhat smaller stocks. The latter feared that it would be difficult to replenish their stocks because of transportation troubles and because farmers are so busy trying to catch up with their regular spring work.

The wholesale prices being quoted for seed corn vary considerably, as they usually do,

GRAIN EXPORTS BY GRADE.

Week Ending Apr. 24.

[Thousands of bushels; i. e., 000 omitted.]

Subclass and grade.	New York.	Philadelphia.	Baltimore.	New Orleans.	Galveston.	Total for week.
WHEAT.						
No. 2 Durum.....		237				237
Amber Durum:						
No. 2.....	238	76				314
No. 3.....		58				58
Total Amber Durum.....	238	134				372
Total Durum.....	238	371				609
Hard Winter:						
No. 1.....					73	73
No. 2.....		16	50		24	90
No. 3.....					24	24
All others.....					11	11
Total Hard Red Winter.....		16	50		132	198
No. 2 Red Winter.....		23	96			119
No. 2 Mixed.....	69	4				73
Argentine wheat.....	40					40
Total, week ending Apr. 24, 1920.....	347	414	146		132	1,039
Total, week ending Apr. 17, 1920.....	507	114	350		80	1,051

BARLEY.

Total malting, week ending Apr. 24, 1920.....		53			53
Total, week ending Apr. 17, 1920.....	40		65		105

CORN.

Total, No. 3 Mixed, week ending Apr. 24, 1920.....		9	77		86
---	--	---	----	--	----

RYE.

No. 2 Western.....		102	454		556
Ungraded.....	580				580
Total, week ending Apr. 24, 1920.....	580	102	454		1,133
Total, week ending Apr. 17, 1920.....	96		152		248

depending upon the variety, latitude in which the corn was grown, and the care and selection which was given the seed. The standard varieties of field corn are selling at 25 to 50 cents per bushel more than last year and fodder corn at 10 to 25 cents per bushel more. The wholesale prices by cities and retail prices by divisions are given in the tables on page 283.

SUPPLY OF BEET PULP, 1919.

The total production of sugar beets for the United States for the year 1919, as estimated by the Bureau of Crop Estimates, was 6,421,478 tons. It is estimated that the amount of commercial dried beet pulp obtained from a ton of beets is about 90 pounds. The total production, therefore, of dried beet pulp, if the whole available supply had been dried into feed, would have been about 275,000 tons.

A certain amount of the pulp was used as a wet mash in the territory tributary to the mills, thus reducing the amount of pulp which was dried and placed upon the market. It is thought, however, that this reduction was a very small percentage of the total.

FOREIGN MARKETS

AMERICAN DAIRY PRODUCTS IN FOREIGN MARKETS.

Maintenance of Quality in Standardized Grades or Brands Necessary.

Since the beginning of the European war the American dairy and poultry industries have enjoyed the benefits of an increased foreign trade, as the following table of exports of butter, cheese, and eggs to European countries will show:

Exports of butter, cheese, and eggs from the United States to principal countries for fiscal years ending June 30.

BUTTER.

[Thousands pounds; i. e., 000 omitted.]

Countries to which exported.	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Belgium.....						303
Denmark.....	5		233			1,032
France.....				89	123	346
Italy.....				3		56
Norway.....			62	21	5	1,288
Sweden.....						117
United Kingdom.....	721	3,323	5,433	23,839	13,982	26,530
Canada.....	230	2,643	2,013	1,323	45	40
Cuba.....	205	254	311	339	238	290

CHEESE.

Belgium.....		28				755
Denmark.....						755
France.....				4	1,547	895
Italy.....						78
Norway.....		8	60	45	1	2,136
Sweden.....				15		301
United Kingdom.....	550	50,532	38,077	55,399	35,817	8,147
Canada.....	140	2,809	2,571	6,247	350	113
Cuba.....	200	458	1,602	1,406	2,759	837

EGGS.

France.....	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.
United Kingdom.....		3				210
Canada.....	6	7,395	8,256	4,359	3,680	12,330
Cuba.....	9,065	6,117	7,916	10,850	5,216	3,032
	5,651	5,291	8,046	7,447	7,996	9,804

The exports to Europe were principally made necessary by war conditions. In the hospitals condensed milk and eggs were needed. Cheese was an important part of the "iron ration" of the English Tommy. The herds and flocks of Europe were being continually diminished, and this fact, together with want of adequate supplies of feedstuffs for the farm animals, caused a decrease in dairy production.

The slogan of the American industries was "Produce more; save more; and ship more to Europe." Immense quantities of our products went overseas, not only to our own soldiers, but to the armies of the Allies and to the vast numbers laboring in shop and home. It was hoped by many that the export trade thus started would be but the beginning of a larger trade when peace was restored.

A number of representatives of the distributing trade of our dairy and poultry industries have visited Europe since the war. From some points of view their reports are not the most encouraging. It seems that foreign buyers do not think highly of American products. However, if certain improvements are made the prejudice which has resulted from marketing under war-time conditions and practices may be overcome.

Quality Frequently Unsatisfactory.

The stress of war and existing conditions had greatly upset normal trading methods

EXPORT TRADE IN CONDENSED AND EVAPORATED MILK.

The influence of war conditions upon the foreign trade of the United States in condensed and evaporated milk is clearly shown in the following tables. Shipments overseas of these products increased from 22,850,904 pounds during 1914 to the enormous amount of 852,865,414 pounds in 1919, or 3,632 per cent within five years. It will be noted that during the first two months

of 1920 exports fell considerably below those for the closing months of 1919.

This drop was an immediate cause of the disturbed market conditions. Even these figures do not represent the extent of the slump, because at least a part of the recent exports consisted of deliveries on previous orders held up by lack of tonnage.

Exports of condensed and evaporated milk from the United States, 1914, 1916-1919.

BY COUNTRIES.

Countries to which exported.	1914	1916	1917	1918	1919
	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.
Belgium.....	223,409	21,685,438	23,429,605	45,504,596	61,596,636
France.....	2,461	6,150,992	89,711,185	40,942,488	114,818,165
Netherlands.....	769,151	4,045,413	10,217,551		11,821,267
United Kingdom.....	194,778	105,936,741	157,775,172	268,879,340	420,928,450
Canada.....	235,507			9,090,796	4,578,983
Panama.....	1,615,944	4,681,389	6,571,976	2,443,751	3,599,561
Mexico.....	834,112	2,461,813	4,751,925	4,142,818	2,946,455
Cuba.....	7,524,002	30,049,429	30,214,405	31,759,473	33,461,993
China.....	2,249,878	3,430,827	4,953,107	2,276,179	5,555,679
British India.....	14,200			34,371,600	10,130,675
Straits Settlements.....	45,745			5,863,190	6,444,295
Hongkong.....	160,474	6,565,875	5,049,334	4,937,745	2,269,288
Japan.....	1,890,505	4,071,339	6,094,281	3,735,838	4,123,127
Philippine Islands.....	1,624,656	4,293,095	12,392,111	8,039,055	14,085,937
British South Africa.....	781,746	2,248,200	9,349,450	4,190,065	1,025,731
Other countries.....	4,681,336	24,065,576	68,065,111	84,962,820	155,479,169
Total.....	22,859,904	219,686,127	428,575,213	551,139,754	852,865,414
Increase over previous year, per cent.....		861	95	29	55
Total production.....	(1)	992,363,944	1,333,786,612	1,675,934,234	2,030,957,648
Percentage exported.....		22	32	33	42

BY MONTHS.

Month.	1914	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.
January.....	1,507,978	9,341,413	13,323,665	40,295,765	40,789,433	44,922,698
February.....	1,410,516	10,652,831	16,110,559	29,940,184	49,399,574	42,998,660
March.....	1,595,029	17,237,973	23,691,608	49,184,584	48,703,690	45,703,690
April.....	1,513,854	14,665,619	27,327,896	43,440,078	94,068,780	
May.....	1,423,157	26,370,631	26,615,876	44,701,326	76,387,474	
June.....	1,221,406	28,676,232	39,330,199	39,021,885	114,835,626	
July.....	1,364,740	22,949,694	35,950,870	41,426,372	64,447,367	
August.....	2,585,343	26,097,320	45,353,724	58,634,546	65,811,556	
September.....	2,978,400	22,401,507	43,112,598	49,292,431	62,558,786	
October.....	1,967,439	12,582,454	45,458,224	56,560,948	88,801,528	
November.....	2,713,467	16,275,288	48,541,036	50,571,373	70,278,203	
December.....	2,569,575	12,435,165	63,758,928	48,070,262	76,783,397	
Total.....	22,850,904	219,686,127	428,575,213	551,139,754	852,865,414	

¹ Not available.

and conditions, but in spite of handicaps shipments were large. Purchases were made mostly by foreign governmental commissions and foodstuffs were distributed under food-control boards. Economy was often the guiding principle in making purchases, and high quality was frequently sacrificed to obtain a larger quantity of fair quality for the same money. In forming his opinions of American products, the foreign consumer had to depend upon personal experiences which in many cases were disappointing from all standpoints.

Eggs Often Received in Poor Condition.

During the past year large quantities of eggs were shipped to English markets from Canada, Australia, and the United States. Those from the United States and Canada were of a much smaller size than those locally produced. The Canadian egg was reported to be none too good in quality, though it was often far superior to the product from the United States.

A great many eggs from this country were shipped apparently without proper refrigeration. Many developed a sort of mold or large black spot on the shell, and the yolk and white became mixed, showing a weakness such as exists in old storage stocks. They were not rotten or unwholesome, but had simply gone to pieces. Very little

complaint was made of American methods of packing, as the shell was injured in only a few instances. The complaints seemed to be largely on account of the quality of eggs shipped and faulty or improper refrigeration in transit overseas. Many steamships returned from Europe ballasted with sand; the stowing of eggs in the hold of such ships after the ballast had been partially removed is thought to have weakened the yolk so that the egg went to pieces under the constant motion of its contents. A few lots of American eggs of good quality shipped under refrigeration showed up well, but the majority could hardly be classed as a credit to our poultry industry.

Butter and Cheese in English Markets.

American market men generally agree that most of the overseas shipments of butter would grade commercially 87 to 90. Much of it would score from 88 to 89, and but little over 90. Butter of this quality, to prevent deterioration below the point at which it would become unsuitable for table use, should be used immediately when taken from storage.

In view of the delay in transportation, principally at British ports, it could hardly be expected that American butter shipped during the war would reach the consumer in

good condition. Unfortunately, the poor quality resulted in a prejudice against our butter, which can be overcome only by future exports of a product of better quality.

On the British market, cheese fared better than either butter or eggs from the standpoint of the buyer's approval. The quality of cheese is probably standardized better in our producing sections, and the shipments were mostly from storage stocks. The practice of storing the better qualities in this country undoubtedly helped to improve the general quality of the exported goods. Then, too, the English trade prefers the rather sharp flavor which is characteristic of storage cheese.

It is reported that large stocks of inferior cheese formerly purchased extensively by the saloon trade is held in this country awaiting export orders. If this cheese is exported there is grave danger that the reputation of our cheese abroad will be injured as severely as that of our eggs and butter.

Experience a Costly Lesson.

The marketing of a new brand of product in foreign countries requires for its successful development the establishing of confidence on the part of the buyer. Without this confidence selling costs are considerably higher. Any branded product to be worthy of national advertising must be of a quality satisfactory to the consumers. In domestic trade manufacturers formerly had many brands and frequently changed them. But experience soon taught them that a few standardized, well-advertised brands were the most satisfactory in the long run. And what is true in the domestic field is largely true in the foreign trade for dairy products.

Experience has taught many a costly lesson. Our dairy, as well as our poultry, industry stands to suffer from mistakes made in our foreign marketing policies and methods, for it should be remembered that the exporters' losses are a small part of the total injury to the industry, particularly to the producer. The results obtained by other countries in standardizing their products and exporting the highest qualities under Government or private brands are worthy of consideration in establishing permanent foreign marketing practices in this country.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE CABLE RATES.

Week Ending Apr. 24.

Countries.	Coin.	Par value.	High.	Low.
Argentina.....	Peso.....	\$1.0365	\$1.025	\$1.012
Belgium.....	Franc.....	.1939	.0622	.06349
Brazil.....	Milreis.....	2,5462	3.26	3.2587
China:				
Hongkong.....	Dollar.....	4.8642	.975	.925
Shanghai.....	Tael.....	1.2020	1.36	1.28
Czechoslovakia.....	Krone.....	.2026	.0165	.0155
Denmark.....	do.....	.2689	.176	.171
England.....	Pound.....	4.8665	3.955	3.875
France.....	Franc.....	.1939	.0625	.05952
Germany.....	Mark.....	.2352	.0167	.0159
Greece.....	Drachma.....	.193	.1125	.109
Italy.....	Lira.....	.1930	.04683	.0433
Japan.....	Yen.....	.4985	.485	.48
Jugoslavia.....	Krone.....	.2026	.007	.0063
Mexico.....	Peso.....	.4955	.4975	.49125
Netherlands.....	Guilder.....	.4020	.37125	.365
Norway.....	Krone.....	.2680	.2025	.193
Poland.....	Mark.....	.2352	.0059	.0052
Roumania.....	Lei.....	.1930	.0175	.016
Serbia.....	Dinar.....	.193	.0287	.0225
Spain.....	Peso.....	.1930	.1745	.17
Sweden.....	Krona.....	.2680	.2225	.216
Switzerland.....	Franc.....	.1930	.1895	.1773

¹ These rates are approximate only, as they represent the value of foreign monies at New York about noon. The values fluctuate with the demand, which may change within the hour.

² Gold. ³ Government paper. ⁴ Approximate.

SOY BEANS AND COWPEAS.

(Continued from page 283.)

soaring to new high levels, has been followed by a 60 or 90 day period of inactive demand with prices unchanged to slightly lower. The demand at this time is considered not so good as last year, principally because of the prevailing high prices.

There is a difference of opinion among dealers as to the probable late demand for cowpeas. In the Middle West and in some of the Southern States the same factors influencing the acreage and demand for soy beans may cause an increased acreage and consequent greater demand for cowpeas. Many dealers, however, report that the high price will continue to have a tendency to retard the demand and will result in a reduced acreage planted to this crop. This is especially true of the Southern States where velvet beans, which are relatively much lower in price and greater in supply, are being more extensively planted in place of cowpeas. Some of the factors entering into the comparative valuation of cowpeas and velvet beans were given in an article, entitled "Price of cowpeas high," which appeared in the issue of the Market Reporter for March 6, 1920.

The average wholesale price of cowpeas on April 24, 1920, was \$10 per 100 pounds compared with \$7 per 100 pounds on the same date last year. The high price is attributed to the short supply rather than to the demand, and higher prices generally are not anticipated.

Stocks in the hands of seedsmen and shippers, with possibly a few exceptions, are much smaller than at this time last year or in a normal year, and are estimated by a few of the larger dealers to be not over 40 to 50 per cent of last year.

BUTTER EXPORTS BY NETHERLANDS, 1919.

(Danish Butter Trade Journal.)

Exported to—	Pounds.	Exported to—	Pounds.
Germany.....	14,337,166	West Indies...	34,476
Belgium.....	9,052,623	Switzerland...	742,152
Great Britain...	199,474	All other.....	673,089
France.....	4,169,573		
East Indies....	833,844	Total....	20,242,048
Dutch Guiana...	169,651		

EXPORTS OF DAIRY PRODUCTS, OLEOMARGARINE, AND EGGS FROM THE UNITED STATES FOR MARCH.

Destination.	Butter.	Oleo-margarine.	Cheese.	Eggs.	Condensed milk.	Evaporated milk.	Powdered milk.
	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Dozen.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.
EUROPE.							
Austria.....					143,906	11,520	1,625
Belgium.....	2,065,004	388,180	119,423	56,220	2,057,556	384,024	17
Denmark.....		78,426	3,727				450
France.....	2,280	28,426	550		1,586,457	7,399,886	212
Germany.....	1,619	300	946		248,680	1,792,582	4,426
Gibraltar.....					218,250	21,500	
Greece.....	4,610		60,546		273,182	42,194	48
Italy.....	220,606		286,284		737,628	47	26,750
Netherlands.....		123,936			844,174	460,832	24
Norway.....			99,617			63,600	
Poland and Danzig.....		4,275,060			5,213,556	839,452	
Russia.....					259,200	32,232	
Spain.....					8,400	640	400
Sweden.....			73,244		21,000	105,000	
Switzerland.....					12,600	4,200	
Turkey.....					73,825	211,248	
United Kingdom.....	3,214,581		214,576	936,945	9,129,740	188,560	62,528
NORTH AMERICA							
Pernamda.....	8,488	9,425	676	6,833	29,752	19,198	430
Canada.....	44,931	621,288	40,750	1,585,918	36	49,756	506
Central America:							
British Honduras.....	5,658	1,800	5,646		5,593	14,273	
Panama.....	65,440		31,377	62,160	146,646	363,950	2,070
Mexico.....	54,197	1,841	106,261	48,398	187,098	358,806	3,178
West Indies:							
Bartados.....	36,800	23,400	595		19,136	849	
Cuba.....	144,947	1,750	314,506	912,043	3,556,773	319,459	10,483
Dominican Republic.....	82,063	5,900	93,940		83,055	3,757	50
Haiti.....	81,675	500	17,544		3,957	1,680	
Jamaica.....	5,311	60,500	23,095		186,960	46,730	
Trinidad and Tobago.....	148,696		5,509		219,993	3,000	800
SOUTH AMERICA.							
Brazil.....			1,040		325,149	48	
British Guiana.....	68,760	3,060	306		6,930	720	
Peru.....	37,652		3,710		57,837	292,346	989
ASIA.							
Turkey.....	430	68,850	44,981		171,547	2,460	100
China.....	4,623		9,601		284,280	29,478	
Hongkong.....	2,040		12,537		204,821	27,928	2,850
Japan.....		378	3,514		388,330	68,850	4,480
British India.....		100	28,343		182,392	3,777,930	
Straits Settlements.....			7,506		1,347,440	106,310	
Dutch East Indies.....	570		408		449,531	97,358	
Philippine Islands.....	1,448		2,730		707,865	1,041,913	
AFRICA.							
British East Africa.....					197,850	5,250	
British South Africa.....			3,410		317,850	279,400	
British West Africa.....	4,978	209	5,715		16,754	8,807	
Egypt.....		1,250	23,695		50,780	507,948	30
French Africa.....	1,260		628		217,594	10,193	
Portuguese Africa.....			1,650		24,250	129,000	
All other countries.....	57,616	133,612	75,342	1,010	651,950	206,781	8,425
Total:							
March, 1920.....	6,396,823	5,828,072	1,793,922	3,603,527	30,891,413	19,322,326	150,878
March, 1919.....	4,127,635	442,676	963,109	1,681,580		48,703,690	

¹ Before Jan. 1, 1920, the export figures on condensed, evaporated, and powdered milk were not obtainable separately.

NOTE.—A correction of the report of exports for February, given in the issue of Mar. 27, p. 196, was published in the issue of Apr. 3, p. 223.

COTTON

PRICES AND MOVEMENT OF AMERICAN COTTON.

Spots and Futures Show Severe Declines.

There were material declines in prices for both spots and futures during the week ending April 24. The average price for Middling as determined by the quotations supplied by the 10 designated spot markets reached 41.21 cents per pound on April 24, which was the lowest price recorded during the week. This price compares with the close of the previous week of 42.26 cents and 27.84 cents for the corresponding day in 1919. During the week May contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 180 points and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange 252 points. May future contracts on the Liverpool Cotton Association closed at 24.59 pence on April 23 as against 25.86 pence the previous week and 16.38 pence for the corresponding day in 1919.

The spot demand during the week continued inactive. The total sales reported for the week ending April 24 amounted to only 30,911 bales as compared with 52,371 bales the previous week and 92,509 bales for the corresponding period in 1919.

There was no particular change in the dry goods situation, and signs of firmness continued.

New York and New Orleans closing future prices Apr. 24, 1920, and the corresponding days in 1919 and 1918.

Month.	New York.			New Orleans.		
	1920	1919	1918	1920	1919	1918
May.....	40.45	28.45	25.40	38.88	27.38	24.48
July.....	37.93	26.92	25.02	37.77	25.85	23.90
October.....	34.50	24.50	24.42	34.28	24.22	23.18
December.....	33.53	24.50	24.29	33.30	23.66	23.00

Cotton Movement and Exports from Aug. 1 to Apr. 23.

[Information from commercial sources.]

	1919-20	1918-19
	Bales.	Bales.
Port receipts.....	6,242,717	5,471,691
Port stocks.....	1,224,542	1,260,341
Interior receipts.....	6,367,689	5,472,819
Interior stocks.....	1,169,597	1,447,440
Into sight.....	10,564,487	9,330,034
Northern spinners' takings.....	2,385,484	1,641,091
Southern consumption.....	2,672,000	2,691,000
World's visible supply of American cotton.....	4,398,090	3,715,815

Figures at hand indicate that the exports for the week ending April 23 were 87,211 bales, against 116,794 bales for the previous week and 73,377 bales for the corresponding week last year; and that the total exports from August 1, 1919, to April 23, 1920, amounted to 5,530,000 bales, against 3,834,000 bales in 1918-19 and 3,485,000 bales in 1917-18.

Exports of American cotton from Aug. 1 to Apr. 23.

To—	1919-20	1918-19	1917-18
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Great Britain.....	2,791,000	1,756,000	1,922,000
France.....	506,000	584,000	494,000
Other countries.....	2,233,000	1,494,000	1,069,000

Spot-Cotton Quotations.

Price of Middling spot cotton for April 24 and the commercial differences in price between Middling and other grades of American Upland cotton at each of the 10 markets named, together with the total number of bales sold during the week ending April 24 in each of these markets, as reported to the Bureau of Markets:

	Norfolk.	Annapolis.	Savannah.	Montgomery.	New Orleans.	Memphis.	Little Rock.	Dallas.	Houston.	Galveston.	Average.
White Standards:	On.	On.	On.	On.	On.	On.	On.	On.	On.	On.	On.
Middling Fair.....	300	350	350	275	425	350	350	300	450	450	360
Strict Good Middling.....	250	250	250	225	400	275	275	250	350	350	288
Good Middling.....	200	200	200	175	350	200	200	200	250	250	223
Strict Middling.....	100	100	100	100	125	100	125	100	150	150	115
Middling.....	40.00	40.75	41.75	40.50	41.00	42.00	41.75	41.05	41.25	42.00	41.21
Off.....	Off.	Off.	Off.	Off.	Off.	Off.	Off.	Off.	Off.	Off.	Off.
Strict Low Middling.....	250	300	250	300	325	300	250	250	250	250	273
Low Middling.....	600	700	550	650	850	700	650	800	800	925	723
Strict Good Ordinary ²	800	900	800	900	1,175	1,000	900	1,200	1,300	1,200	1,018
Good Ordinary ²	1,000	1,100	1,000	1,150	1,425	1,400	1,100	1,500	1,600	1,600	1,288
Yellow Tinged:											
Good Middling.....	100	200	250	200	375	300	200	250	200	200	183
Strict Middling.....	200	400	350	300	150	450	350	300	350	300	315
Middling ²	400	600	500	450	350	500	500	500	500	450	475
Strict Low Middling ²	600	900	700	650	675	650	650	700	750	700	698
Low Middling ²	800	1,100	1,000	950	1,200	950	850	1,000	1,300	1,000	1,015
Yellow Stained:											
Good Middling.....	400	450	500	400	300	600	500	450	450	450	450
Strict Middling ²	600	650	650	600	575	700	650	600	550	550	613
Middling ²	800	700	800	800	700	750	750	700	700	700	740
Blue Stained:											
Good Middling ²	500	800	650	500	400	600	600	700	450	550	575
Strict Middling ²	600	900	750	650	625	700	750	800	550	650	698
Middling ²	800	1,000	900	800	750	950	850	900	700	750	840
Sales for week, bales.....	2,621	1,119	1,187	145	6,658	5,350	1,260	3,270	3,390	5,711	30,911

¹ The differences are stated in terms of points or hundredths of a cent per pound. By "On" is meant that the stated number of points is to be added to the price of Middling, and by "Off" is meant that the stated number of points is to be subtracted from the price of Middling.

² These grades are not tenderable on future contracts made subject to section 5 of the United States cotton futures Act, as amended, on the future exchanges at New York and New Orleans.

³ On.

⁴ Total sales in the 10 markets.

Stocks of American Cotton, Apr. 23.

	1919-20	1918-19	1917-18	1916-17
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Liverpool.....	902,000	354,000	216,000	527,000
Manchester.....	168,000	59,000	23,000	43,000
Continent.....	504,000	319,000	127,000	324,000

Stocks of Government-Classed Cotton at Future Markets.

Inspected cotton, Government-classed, in warehouses in the ports of New York and New Orleans on April 23, 1920, of the grades tenderable on future contracts made on the exchanges in those markets subject to section 5 of the United States cotton futures Act as amended:

Grade.	New York.	New Orleans.
Middling Fair.....	9	189
Strict Good Middling.....	4	1,344
Good Middling.....	50	3,220
Strict Middling.....	157	4,573
Middling.....	703	3,616
Strict Low Middling.....	2,060	3,393
Low Middling.....	631	234
Good Middling Yellow Tinged.....	29	283
Strict Middling Yellow Tinged.....	127	5
Good Middling Yellow Stained.....	2	
Total.....	3,743	16,776

Long-Staple Cotton.

A fair demand is reported for extra-staple cotton at New Orleans and a very good demand at Memphis. Some of the sales reported in these two markets were as follows:

New Orleans:	Cents.
Middling, 1½ to 1⅞ inches (California).....	52
Strict Middling, 1 to 1⅞ inches.....	48½
Middling to Strict Middling, 1½ inches.....	85
Strict Low Middling, 1½ to 1⅞ inches.....	75
Strict Low Middling to Middling, 1½ to 1⅞ inches.....	48

Memphis:

Strict Low Middling to Low Middling, 1½ inches.....	65
Strict Middling, 1½ inches.....	90
Strict Low Middling, 1½ inches.....	70
Low Middling, 1½ inches.....	50
Middling, gray, 1½ inches.....	67
Low Middling, gray, 1½ inches.....	65
Strict Middling to Good Middling, 1½ inches.....	60

The average premiums quoted in the New Orleans and Memphis markets for the staple lengths specified are given below. The figures are based on sales during the week ending April 24 and are for Middling cotton based on Middling short staple at 41 cents per pound at New Orleans and 42 cents per pound at Memphis.

Length.	New Orleans (points on Middling).	Memphis (points on Middling).
1½ inches.....	625	600
1⅞ inches.....	2,425	2,600
1⅞ inches.....	3,550	4,000
1⅞ inches.....	4,200	4,600
1⅞ inches.....		5,000
1⅞ inches.....		5,550

Advices received from New Bedford state that the following prices have been paid during the week in that market for the grades and lengths of staple stated below based on the Government standards:

	Cents.
Strict Middling, 1 inch.....	43½
Middling to Strict Middling, 1½ to 1⅞ inches.....	58
Middling, gray, 1½ inches.....	62

It is reported that there is a good demand in New Bedford for the better grades of the lengths of 1½, 1⅞, and 1⅞ inches, but that the supply is very limited.

Latest advices received indicate that Sea Island cotton of No. 2 grade or Extra Choice with average staple is quoted at \$1.15 per pound at Savannah.

Stocks of Egyptian cotton in Alexandria on Apr. 23.

	Bales.	Bales.
1919-20.....	123,000	316,000
1918-19.....	362,000	1916-17..... 135,000

